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FIFTY YEARS OF ARMY REMINISCENCES.

IN 1838 Erasmus D. Keyes, afterwards Brevet Brig. Gen. U. S. A., and Major Gen. U. S. V., commanding the 4th Corps, entered the Military Academy at West Point as a cadet. In a volume entitled "Fifty Years' Observation of Men and Events, Civil and Military" (New York, Charles Scribner's Sons), General Keyes gives us a most interesting report of his experiences since the date of his first entrance to the Army. His book is a pleasantly written, gossiping narrative conceived as a whole, in a spirit of unusual good will toward all mankind, though the author cannot wholly rid himself of the disposition, which seems inherent in the military nature, to justify himself at the expense of others, when he chances upon a doubtful passage in his career, or one in which others' estimate of his merit was not in keeping with his own. We are much less interested in Keyes' opinion of Keyes, however, than in Keyes' opinion of others, and it is to his credit that so small a portion of his volume is devoted to personal defence; for he had the example of his illustrious chief General Scott to justify him in a much more marked departure from the canon of good taste. Summing up for himself on the defence as concerns the battle of Fair Oaks or Seven Pines, May 31, 1863, General Keyes says: "The foregoing direct evidence of Hamilton, Abercrombie, Jackson and Villarsceau, with the corroborating testimony of Generals Couch, Peck and others in support of my own assertion of the same facts, I trust will satisfy those who may hereafter write of the battle of Fair Oaks that I was not surprised or tardy in the fight." In this connection he pays his respects to Gen. Harry M. Naglee, now a resident of California, of whom he says with as much truth as point, premising that his bravery and energy are unquestioned:

"In all armies there is a class of men who are at variance with their commanding officer. Of that class, so far as my reading and military experience extends, Henry M. Naglee is entitled to stand head. He came to my corps from General Hooker's division, and at his first interview with me he discharged a tirade of male dictions against that officer, which made so slight an impression that, if Hooker had rifled me of my fondest hopes, it would not have occurred to me to allege a word that Naglee had said against him by way of revenge or justification."

Of the results of this fight and the subsequent contests and the retreat or "change of base" to Harri- son's Landing, General Keyes says: "Whether it was the free expression of my opinion to the President, at which General McClellan had no right to be offended, or his dislike, or the dislike and slanders of other men, I know not, but there must have been some cause for my abandonment, which was as fatal to my aspirations and usefulness in the Army as a dismissal would have been. I have not given my impressions at length in this book of General McClellan's capacity to command armies, for the reason that he held me at times in what I considered unmerited disfavor, the remembrance of which might away my judgment. If I were to estimate his qualifications only from his conduct during the change of base to the James River, I should assign to him a distinguished rank among military leaders."

In another place he says: "At West Point I had McClellan under instruction in artillery and cavalry, and was struck with the facility with which he learned his lessons and his strong attachment to friends—qualities for which he has always been remarkable."

Of the principal champions of the Union and Rebel- lion causes Gen. Keyes has so much to say that we cannot give his opinion in full. It is indicated by the extracts which follow, culled here and there. He shares in a measure the opinion of General Scott who had "an

almost adoltrous fancy for Lee, whose military genius he estimated far above that of any other officer of the Army. On one occasion, after the Mexican War, Gen. Scott, speaking to me of Lee, remarked that, if hostilities should break out between our country and England, it would be cheap for the United States to insure Lee's life for \$5,000,000 a year! It has frequently been surmised that Scott at one time offered to retire from service and give Lee the command of the Federal Army. In my mind there is not a shadow of a doubt that he did so. Without question he employed his utmost powers to convince Lee that it was his duty to comply with his sug- gestion. It is proper that the world should credit General Robert E. Lee with genius and purity of intention, justice and an unsoiled life. Such were his cardinal virtues, and in the variety of his manly accom- plishments, and the graces of his manners and person, he excelled every individual with whom I have had the good fortune to be acquainted."

"W. T. Sherman, with whom my cordial relations have never known abatement, was ambitious without asperity, and surprisingly active and always attentive to duty. In one respect he has since undergone an anomalous change, for in youth his style of speaking and writing was plain and succinct; now it is ornate and so expansive as to embrace nearly the whole range of human thought. From time to time he undertook to reform my speech, and he would often criticize my con- duct, which I prove as follows:

"I had an ill-favored yellow pup named Carlo that would follow me to the parade ground from where I lived outside of the fort. Wishing to be rid of the beast, I called my company clerk and said: 'Water- bury, conduct this quadruped to my dwelling.' Sher- man thought my style too pompous. I asked him what he would have said. He replied: 'I would have said: Waterbury, take this dog down to my house.' As to my conduct: I had in my company a stunted, crooked, cross-grained soldier, whose name was Jim Hill. Hill spent above half the time in the guard house, and on parade his head was always seen protruding six or eight inches in front of the line, and all my efforts to straighten the wretch had been futile. Sherman questioned my skill as a 'drill master, and one day I asked him to drill my company and try his hand on the scallawag. He consented, and I went out to look on. Hill's visage wore an usually perverse aspect that morning, and I was encouraged. Sherman began upon him at once with reproaches and adjurations, to which the fellow paid no heed. At last, his patience being exhausted, Sherman, with angry haste, pro- ceeded to the rear of the company, and having first with a tremendous thrust sunk his sword into the sand nearly to the hilt, he took hold of Jim's shoulders with his knee against his back, and tried his utmost to rec- tify the individual in question. Hill's strength was enormous, and instead of yielding he strove in a con- trary direction, and absolutely gained two inches in crookedness, which he retained till the drill was ended. Sherman's face acknowledged defeat. I was calm."

"Sherman showed wonderful vigor and sagacity when he pushed Johnston from Chattanooga to Atlanta, but Grant would drive his chariot through passes that Sherman would not venture to approach. There was an abatement in Lee's audacity during the twenty-four hours preceding the battle of Gettysburg, otherwise he would have won it and gained the Southern cause; but nowhere can I discover debility in Grant's movements or assaults. Grant could hold his enemy as in a vice, with a ruthlessness like that of Tamerlane or the Duke of Alva, and when he had accomplished everything he left upon the mind of his observer an impression that he possessed a reserve of force that had not been called into play. I am constrained, therefore, to assign to Ulysses S. Grant the highest rank as a military com- mander of all that have been born on the continent of America."

"Of Bragg I will not say much. He was equally as ambitious as W. T. Sherman, but being of a saturnine disposition and morbid temperament, his ambition was of the vitriolic kind. He could see nothing bad in the South and little good in the North, although he was disposed to smile on his satellites and sycophants when- soever they came. He was intelligent, and the exact performance of all his military duties added force to his pernicious influence."

"At the time above referred to Thomas was twenty- six years old. His height was exactly six feet, his form perfectly symmetrical, inclining to plumpness; his complexion was blonde, eyes deep blue and large. The shape and carriage of his head and the expression of his handsome face corresponded with my idea of a patrician of ancient Rome. Of all the hundreds of Southern men with whom I have been intimate, he and Robert E. Lee were the fairest in their judgment of Northern men. In this conclusion I make no excep- tion. Thomas possessed an even temperament, and was never violently demonstrative. He was equally calm when he went in and when he came out of the battle. He was seldom much in advance of the ap- pointed time in his arrival at the post of duty, and I never knew him to be late, or to appear impatient or in a hurry. All his movements were deliberate, and his self-possession was supreme, without being arrogant, and he received and gave orders with equal se- renity. From the first we were companions, and my confidence in him was at once complete. He did his duty and kept all his appointments precisely, and a long acquaintance with him invariably led to respect and affection. His deportment was dig- nified, and in the presence of strangers and casual acquaintances he was reserved. Nevertheless he was social, and he possessed a subtle humor always ready to show itself in similes and illustrations of character which I could exemplify by numerous anecdotes if I were writing his history. He was an accomplished officer, and although his turn of mind inclined him more to science than literature, his reading was exten- sive and varied. The qualities which exalted him most above his fellows were judgment, impartiality, and in- tegrity, in all which he had few equals and in the last no superior."

"His wife was a noble Northern woman, and his deference for her was great; and it is my opinion that it was her influence, more than any other consideration, that determined him to cast his fortunes with us. Had he followed his own inclinations, he would have joined the Confederates, and fought against the North with the same ability and valor that he displayed in our cause. His part once chosen, he stood like a tower for the North, and he has been rewarded with a monument and a lasting fame."

"While he was in my corps, Hancock's activity, gal- lantry, cheerfulness and freedom from spite and in- subordination attracted me strongly. After he was transferred I was not near enough to him to note how great success and adulation in and after the war had affected his nature, and I know not his humor now that he has been jolted on the rough ways of politics, and warped and stretched upon a Democratic plat- form, but it would be impossible to corrupt Han- cock."

"Ord was cheerful and domestic in his habits, and his accomplished wife told me that her life had been joyous. Little did she foresee what the future had in store for her gallant husband, or what sorrow for herself. General Ord, although a Virginian by birth, illustrated his name in the Northern armies during our Civil War. If we except General Orlok, for a shorter time he probably did as much constant hard service as any other officer in the Army."

"H. G. Gibson was my subaltern lieutenant about nine years, and our friendly associations have under- gone no variations. He is an accomplished officer and

a gentleman, and a good speaker. I know of no man except Oullum who is more intimately and correctly acquainted with the history of the Army during the last thirty-six years than H. G. Gibson."

General Keyes served for some years upon the staff of General Scott, first in his youth as an aide-de-camp and in later years as Scott's Military Secretary. His analysis of his chief's character is critical and his anecdotes of him numerous and amusing. One of the best is the following: On one occasion, when war first threatened in 1861, General Scott and General, then Lieutenant Colonel, Keyes, gave a grand dinner to Professor Weir. They had just laid in a stock of wines of various brands, and had on the table specimens of every kind:

When our feast was well advanced, and while we sat tasting and comparing the wines from our numerous glasses, a thundering knock at the door and a loud ringing at the bell announced the arrival of an important company, and the clatter of many feet was heard.

"My God!" exclaimed the General, "these bottles! I am a disgraced man! Bring me a pistol and let me blow my brains out! Keep them back, David!"

It was a desperate emergency. I said to our guest, "Let us clear the table!" So, gathering up as many bottles and glasses as I could hold, I rushed into the General's bedroom, which adjoined, hid them behind the bed, and returned for more again and again. Weir helped with all his might, while David delayed entrance by clanking the chain attached to the door and shoving the bolts, as if he were opening a cage of wild beasts. In this way we had time to clear the table of everything excepting one pint claret bottle that was half full, a few plates, crusts of bread and ribs of lamb cleanly picked, and when the first man of the numerous delegation from one of the western States entered the room, he saw nothing that he might not expect to see in a city during the last days of a siege. While this preparation was being made by Mr. Weir and me, the General quickly subsided from clamor to silence, from agitation to quiet, his face cleared up, and he posed for audience. I verily believe that old Father Abraham, when he fetched the centurion's worshiper of the sun into his tent to give him wise instruction and hospitable entertainment, could not have presented a more majestic picture of calmness and dignity than did my venerable chief on this occasion.

"The delegates came in and arranged themselves compactly around him, like penitents who gather near a holy shrine. The foreman in a few broken sentences, proclaimed his admiration for the aged hero, and begged his counsel for guidance through the perils that harassed the country. In reply the General acknowledged the honor done him, and then he proceeded in that low, soft voice which characterized his conversations on important subjects, to describe the national troubles and their causes. He inculcated good temper, caution and firmness, and gave hope that the agitations might cease without bloodshed, which he greatly deprecated. He found fault with no one, and all he said encouraged good feeling and harmony. The impression made upon his hearers was profound, and I saw tears running down the cheeks of several sturdy men. Some of them were manifestly astonished to hear a voice so soft and gentle issuing from such a giant of war and renown. They all shook hands with him as he sat in his large arm-chair, from which he had not risen, and they left apparently fully satisfied with their visit."

PERSONAL ITEMS.

MAJOR E. B. Beaumont, 4th Cavalry, has left Arizona on a few weeks' leave.

ADMIRAL Baird, of the British Navy, arrived in New York early in the week, and registered at the Brevoort House.

LIEUT. J. M. T. Partello, 5th Infantry, and Captain E. S. Godfrey, 7th Cavalry, visited friends in St. Paul, a few days ago on their way East.

GEN. Miles has sent Captain F. D. Baldwin, 5th Infantry, of his staff, to Spokane Falls, to assist the officials of the Interior Department in carrying out recent agreements with the Mooses and Columbia River Indians.

CAPT. Philip Rankin, British Navy, arrived in New York, from England, early in the week.

LIEUT. John McOlellan, 5th U. S. Artillery, at present in Europe, is expected to return to the United States next month.

LIEUT. P. P. Barnard, 5th Cavalry, was retired for age on Monday of this week, Oct. 13, thereby promoting 2d Lieut. H. W. Wheeler to a first lieutenantcy, and taking him from Fort McKinney to Fort Robinson.

A RECEPTION was given to the wife and daughter of Passed Assistant Paymaster John Clyde Sullivan, U. S. N., at No. 133 East One Hundredth and Sixteenth Street, New York City, on the evening of Oct. 9, upon their return from an absence of three years in Japan. Her husband is in command of the American Naval depot at Nagasaki, and will not be relieved before next January.

THE marriage of Miss Bessie Simpson, daughter of Rear Admiral Simpson, U. S. N., to Mr. Sands, of New York City, is soon to take place in Washington.

THE surviving Duke of Wellington is engaged in editing the private correspondence of the great duke for publication, which is said to contain some curious political and personal gossip.

MAJOR J. S. Fletcher, 23d Infantry, of Fort Porter, N. Y., arrived in Philadelphia this week on a visit to relatives.

Mrs. Ord, widow of Gen. E. O. C. Ord, now residing at Hinton, Md., is the owner of the table upon which the articles of surrender at Appomattox Court House were written.

COL. W. B. Royall, 4th Cavalry, on his way to Arizona, to join his regiment, has been visiting old friends in Omaha, much to their satisfaction.

THE Court-martial at Fort Sill, I. T., for the trial of Capt. C. D. Beyer, 9th Cavalry, has completed the case, and the proceedings have been sent to General Angur.

COL. Joseph H. Potter, 24th Infantry, celebrated his sixty-second birthday on Monday, Oct. 12.

CAPT. Daniel Madden, 6th Cavalry, is to spend a few months at the Hot Springs of Arkansas.

GEN. James Oakes, U. S. A., registered at the Lafayette Hotel, Philadelphia, early in the week, and Surgeon Joseph Hugg and Civil Engineer F. C. Prindle, U. S. N., at the Colonnade.

ASST. SURG. George McCreery, U. S. A., lately visiting New York City, has joined at Fort Meade, Dakota.

GEN. T. M. Vincent, U. S. A., was to rejoin at San Antonio the latter part of this week, from a brief trip North.

LIEUT. H. R. Anderson, 4th U. S. Artillery, returned to New York this week from Fort Preble, Me., to receive from Major-Gen. Hancock the prize won by him in the late rifle competitions at Creedmoor.

GEN. O. B. Wilcox, U. S. A., rejoined at Sackett's Harbor, N. Y., this week from a brief trip to Michigan.

GEN. W. W. Burns, U. S. A., who has recently joined Gen. Hancock's staff, will shortly bring his family to Governor's Island to reside in the quarters vacated by Gen. Clarke.

OF ASST. SURG. W. R. Hall, U. S. A., who recently passed through El Paso, Texas, on his way to David's Island, N. Y. Harbor, for duty, the *Times* of that city says: "Dr. Hall used to be one of the institutions in El Paso, having a large practice."

CAPT. E. M. Hayes, 5th Cavalry, lately relieved from recruiting service at Charlotte, N. C., was to start this week to join his troop at Fort Washakie.

MAJOR H. M. Enos, U. S. A., is residing at Waukegan, Wisconsin.

THE Newport, R. I., papers announce the engagement of Capt. E. O. Matthews, U. S. N., to Miss Hammond of that city.

GEN. O. O. Howard, U. S. A., arrived in New York from abroad this week, and is expected in Omaha next week. Lieut. Guy Howard, U. S. A., his son and aide, and Mrs. Howard also returned this week from Europe.

LIEUT. Chas. H. Osgood, 12th U. S. Infantry, and bride will join at Plattsburg Barracks, N. Y., the groom's station, early next week.

COL. C. G. Freudenberg, U. S. A., returned from a summer sojourn in Europe on Saturday last and located temporarily at the Grand Hotel, New York.

LIEUT. M. W. Day, 9th Cavalry, after having made a high reputation at Fort Leavenworth as a marksman and sharpshooter, has rejoined at Fort Sill, I. T.

ASST. SURG. L. Y. Loring, U. S. A., for some time past in charge of the Medical Department at Fort Schuyler, N. Y. Harbor, was to start this week for San Francisco for duty on the Pacific Coast.

GENERAL Van Vliet, U. S. A., and family, are still at Shrewsbury, N. J., but are expected to return to Washington next week, for the winter.

COL. C. L. Best, 4th U. S. Artillery, and Mrs. Best have returned to Newport, R. I., from their wedding trip, and Col. Best has resumed command at Fort Adams.

CAPT. Wm. Conway, 22d U. S. Infantry, was expected in New York this week to report to Col. Andrews to conduct recruits to Fort Leavenworth.

ASST. SURG. Washington Matthews, U. S. A., is on a visit to California.

MAJOR R. F. Bernard, 8th Cavalry, presided over a General Court-martial which organized at Fort Clark, Texas, on Wednesday of this week, for the trial of Lieut. J. H. King, of that regiment.

THE Vancouver Independent, of Oct. 2 and 9, says:

Lieut. R. T. Yeatman, 14th Infantry, left yesterday for Fort Stevens, Or.... Lieuts. Pope and Rodman, 1st Artillery, depart for San Francisco to-day.... Major Kimball, chief quartermaster, with his party have returned from Alaska.... Lieut. J. V. White, 1st Artillery, arrived with his family on Monday from San Francisco.... Lawrence Barrett, the famous actor, paid a visit to Vancouver Barracks last week, and was the guest of Gen. Nelson A. Miles.... Lieut. H. T. Allen, A. A. D. C., leaves on the outgoing steamer for Alaska, under orders to proceed to the mouth of Copper River.... Gen. Nelson A. Miles is a member of the General Court-martial for the trial of Gen. Swain, which will keep him in Washington for some time during the fall and winter.... Capt. M. E. O'Brien, 2d Cavalry, Surg. R. S. Vickery, U. S. A., and Lieut. John V. White, 1st Artillery, reported at Department Headquarters Sept. 29.... Dr. F. L. Town departed yesterday for Texas.... Lieut. Samuel Rodman, 1st Artillery, has gone to San Francisco.... Captain Frank D. Baldwin has gone to Spokane Falls to meet officials of the Interior Department, to act on the Mooses Indian Reservation.... Colonel H. Clay Wood, A. A. G. of the Department, arrived in Vancouver on Monday. In the evening the Colonel was the recipient of a serenade, and calls from officers and old friends.

LIEUTENANT J. M. Caffie, 3d U. S. Artillery, rejoined at Mount Vernon Barracks, Ala., this week, from his Eastern visit.

COLONEL H. G. Litchfield, U. S. A., revisited Creedmoor this week, to close matters connected with his supervision of the recent Division of the Atlantic rifle competitions.

REAR ADMIRAL O. H. Baldwin, U. S. N., arrived in New York, from Europe, early in the week, and located temporarily at the Hotel Brunswick.

THE third annual reunion and banquet of the United States sloop-of-war *Jamestown* Veteran Association was held in Philadelphia on Saturday evening last, to celebrate the twenty-second anniversary of the departure of the *Jamestown* for the China and Japan station. Speeches, singing, and reminiscences of the cruise were indulged in heartily. A song entitled "The *Jamestown's* Cruise," air, "Twenty Years Ago," composed by D. Brainard Williamson, was sung by all present.

AT THE marriage, at Philadelphia, October 8, of Captain Thos. W. Symons, Corps of Engineers, U. S. A., to Miss Letitia Robinson, only the immediate relatives and a few friends were present. Lieut. M. M. Macomb, U. S. A., was the best man, and Miss Virginia Tarter was the bridesmaid. Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. Miss Coffey, Dr. and Mrs. Yarrow, Lieut. A. Robert Craig, Professor Tillman, of West Point, and Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Bartol. Lieutenant and Mrs. Symons have gone to Canada on a brief wedding tour.

ADJUTANT A. B. Dyer, 4th U. S. Artillery, and Mrs. Dyer, have been on a pleasant visit to old friends on the Pacific Coast.

CAPT. E. J. Strang, U. S. A., lately retired, is residing at Niagara, Ontario, Canada.

THE death of Naval Cadet A. R. Cohen, U. S. N., at Augusta, Ga., which we announced last week, was the result of typhoid fever, and not yellow fever, as reported in the despatches. There has not been a death from yellow fever at Augusta since 1839.

LIEUT. A. G. Hammond, 8th Cavalry, was at Fort Leavenworth this week on special duty from Texas.

COMMODORE W. K. Mayo, U. S. N., of the Norfolk Navy Yard, has made a recent inspection of the ironclads at City Point.

PASSED Assistant Engineer A. B. Willetta, U. S. N., has left Norfolk, Va., on a month's vacation.

COLONEL E. C. Mason, U. S. A., left Omaha, early in the week to inspect Fort Niobrara and some of the western posts in the Platte.

CAPTAIN G. F. Towle, 19th Infantry, of Columbus Barracks, O., is on a brief visit to Kansas.

GENERAL A. J. Perry, U. S. A., left New York the latter part of this week for Little Rock to inspect the barracks there.

COLONEL C. A. Woodruff, U. S. A., who has been recuperating at Raleigh, N. C., expects to rejoin at Newport Barracks, Ky., about the end of October.

LIEUT. T. J. Clay, 10th U. S. Infantry, rejoined at Fort Union, N. M., this week.

LIEUT. H. J. Hunt, U. S. N., on his way to Colorado, visited friends at Fort Leavenworth early this week.

COLONEL G. V. Henry, U. S. A., took formal charge this week of the office of Inspector of Rifle Practice of the Department of the Missouri.

THE Omaha *Herald*, referring to the return to Omaha of Lieut. Lewis Merriam, 4th U. S. Infantry, the victor in the Army contest at Fort Leavenworth, says: "It is gratifying to know that so skilled a marksman should be an officer of the Department of the Platte, and more gratifying still that his services, as well as his social relations, should be closely identified with the State of Nebraska. Lieutenant Merriam was Acting Assistant Quartermaster and Commissary during the last grasshopper plague in 1874, and as such visited and distributed aid in the counties of Seward, Hamilton and York. The four handsome medals in the window of Raymond's jewelry store are the property of Lieut. Merriam."

GENERAL H. W. Wessells, U. S. A., registered at the Sturtevant House, New York, on Monday.

SITTING BULL and some of his confederates attended church at Philadelphia on Sunday last, and, as an exchange says, "manifested the deepest interest," etc. Long Dog and Flying By remained at the hotel.

PRESIDENT Arthur and a party of friends paid Fortress Monroe, Va., a visit on Monday, and left on the *Despatch* for Washington the same evening.

COMMODORE W. G. Temple, U. S. N., was a guest at the Everett House, New York, early this week.

GENERAL John Gibbon, U. S. A., has returned to Omaha from his trip to Fort Washakie, etc.

JUDGE-ADVOCATE Asa Bird Gardiner, U. S. A., paid a visit to Northern New York this week, taking in Plattsburg Barracks on his way.

MAJOR W. C. Manning, U. S. A., has completed his duties on General Angur's staff, and will, it is expected, join his company at Fort Brady, Mich., in a few weeks.

ASST. SURG. Norton Strong, U. S. A., left Fort Leavenworth early in the week for Fort Union, New Mexico.

LIEUT. C. W. Abbott, 12th U. S. Infantry, of Madison Barracks, is spending a few weeks' leave at Norwich, Conn.

LIEUT. E. F. Wilcox, 6th Cavalry, has succeeded to the regimental adjutancy, vice Lieut. L. A. Craig, who has gone to St. Louis for duty on General Carr's staff.

COMMODORE P. C. Johnson, U. S. N., assumed command of the Navy-yard at Portsmouth, N. H., on Wednesday of this week.

LIEUT. H. A. Springett, 4th Artillery, left Fort Trumbull, Conn., early in the week on a seven days' leave.

CAPTAIN Joseph Irish, U. S. Revenue Marine, was a visitor in Philadelphia this week, registering at the St. Cloud.

GENERAL J. C. Kelton, U. S. A., has been stationed on the Pacific Coast for over fourteen years.

WE greatly regret to learn that the Hon. Wm. Dorsheimer has been compelled to decline a re-nomination to Congress from his New York District, which would be equivalent to an election, as the district is strongly Democratic. We are anxious to see continued in Congress, without respect to party, gentlemen who have shown so intelligent an appreciation of the needs of the public service as has Mr. Dorsheimer, and so patriotic a spirit in dealing with them.

Mrs. Loomis L. Langdon and the children left Fauquier Springs Hotel, Oct. 10, for Fort McHenry, remaining a few days in Washington, en route for Baltimore.

CAPTAIN C. M. Callahan, 4th U. S. Cavalry, was married to Mrs. Susan H. Mann, in New York, on October 12. The Captain and Mrs. Callahan left for Washington this week, and afterwards will go to Phoenix, Arizona.

THE San Francisco Report of October 4 says:

It is expected that the *McArthur* will depart about October 15, with Ensign Jordan in command.... Lieutenant James W. Graydon, of the *Alert*, has resigned, to enter the service of China.... Major Milton B. Adams, Corps of Engineers, has arrived in San Francisco.... Major F. M. Cox, U. S. A., of Tucson, is on a visit with his family for a few weeks. On his return he will be accompanied by his family.... Captain J. G. McAdams, 2d Cavalry, has gone to San Diego.... Lieutenant Robert H. Huggins, 8th Cavalry, has returned to San Diego.... Captain E. L. Huggins, 8th Cavalry, is visiting friends in the city.... Lieutenant F. C. Nichols and M. F. Harmon, 1st Artillery, have arrived at the Presidio.... Lieutenant W. P. Richardson, 8th Infantry, graduate of the class of '84, has been assigned to duty at Angel Island.

THE Sidney Telegraph has the following items concerning the 21st Infantry: Lieut. H. L. Bailey, 21st Infantry, Fort Russell, is seriously sick with typho-malarial fever. The father and uncle of Lieut. Eltonhead, of the 21st Infantry, stationed at Fort Bridger, are visiting the officers at Fort Sidney. The last party who sought amusement in going out to Lawrence's Fork after wild plums was composed of Lieut. Cornman and wife, Lieut. Kornan and wife, Mrs. General Morrow, Miss Haughey, Billy Morrow and Billy Boyle. Miss Bonesteel, of Brooklyn, N. Y., is visiting her brother and friends at the post. Principal Musician Fluegel is visiting relatives in the East.

THE Apache Rocket of October 3 contains the following Fort Davis items:

Lieutenant Eggleston returned from Pena Colorado, Tuesday. Lieutenants Clarke and Hughes arrived last Sunday from West Point. Mrs. Dr. Buffington, who has been quite ill for several weeks, is improving in health. Another set of officers' quarters is to be built north of the Adjutant's office and near the signal and telegraph offices. Dr. Buffington, Assistant Surgeon, who went to Camp Bliss a few days ago to act as Post Surgeon during Dr. Wolf's illness, has returned.

A REUNION of the 2d Cavalry Division and Custer's Brigade, 3d Division Army of the Potomac, took place at Gettysburg, Pa., on Wednesday, which included the dedication of a monumental shaft on the field of cavalry operations during the battle on the right flank. Colonel Brooke Rawle, of Philadelphia, delivered an interesting historical address, and General John B. McIntosh, U. S. A., formally presented the shaft to the Gettysburg Battlefield Memorial Association. The shaft is situated three miles east of Gettysburg, on the highest spot of ground, where the cavalry engagement of the right flank of the Union Army took place. It is 28 feet high; its tablets bear inscriptions, one reading: "This shaft marks the field of engagement between the Union Cavalry, commanded by Brig. Gen. D. McM. Gregg, and the Confederate Cavalry, commanded by Major Gen. J. E. B. Stuart, July 3, 1863." A handsome iron fence, with marble posts, incloses the monument.

PASSED ASST. ENGINEER Abraham V. Zane, U. S. N., has returned to Washington, accompanied by his wife and young son, and resumed his duties in the Bureau of Steam Engineering, after a month's vacation.

ASST. NAVAL CONSTRUCTOR Bowles, secretary to the Naval Advisory Board, is expected to return to Washington from his vacation the latter part of this week. Asst. Engineer Norton, U. S. N., has been acting in his place during his absence.

Miss Caroline Mytinger, of Pennsylvania, has been appointed a copyist in the Naval War Records' Office, after civil service examination.

REAR ADMIRAL Nichols left Washington, Oct. 13, for the interior of New York, and will be absent during the week.

COMMODORE Walker has been appointed Acting Secretary of the Navy.

REFERRING to General Trevino, of the Mexican Army, and his Headquarters at Monterey, the *Alta California* says:

Here are the headquarters of the Military Division of the North, under the command of General Trevino, ex-Minister of War, and one of the famous men of his country under the new and liberal Diaz administration. Born and bred in Mexico, he is emphatically a man of the people, the fact of the army he has so often led to victory during the troublous times succeeding Maximilian's usurpation. At the house of General Oro in San Antonio General Trevino met the oldest daughter, a beautiful and interesting girl of sweet nineteen and the usual result soon followed. General Trevino is generally conceded to be the next successor of Diaz to the Presidency; so there is every probability that in the near future an American lady will be called upon to do the honors of the Presidential mansion at the City of Mexico.

The *Alta* seems to forget that Mrs. Trevino died at Old Point Comfort, Va., February 10, last.

THE Rochester Post-Express says: "John P. Kieselburg, brother of Lieut. Frederick F. Kieselburg, U. S. A., returned home Saturday from Detroit, where satisfactory arrangement in regard to the affairs of his brother were arrived at. By the terms of the agreement Mr. Clark remains Administrator and guardian of Harry; Walter remains with his uncle John in Rochester, who will send him to school there for three years, and at the end of that time enter him as a cadet at Annapolis. Walter will get his share of the property, which his father in the letter of trust directed should be equally distributed among the four children—Douglas, the third son, remains with the Hon. Seth Bullock at Deadwood for the present, and Wheeler with Gen. Schofield's sister, until final arrangements are made."

ASSISTANT SURGEON Valery Havard, U. S. A., registered at the Sturtevant House, New York, on Wednesday, and on Thursday went to Fort Schuyler, N. Y. H.

CAPT. Michael Cooney, 9th Cav., was a visitor at Leavenworth, Kansas, this week.

LIEUT. Shufeldt, U. S. N., is to deliver a lecture on Madagascar next month in London. Lord Aberdare, the venerable President of the Royal Geographical Society, will preside. He has also been invited to lecture before the Geographical Society, New York, on a date not yet designated.

CAPTAIN Thomas O. Selfridge, U. S. N., commandant of the torpedo station, Newport, has accepted an invitation to dine with the Commercial Club at its regular meeting this month. It is expected that he will give a most interesting and instructive talk on the "Necessity of Coast Defences, and the Development and Power of the Torpedo."

GEN. J. B. Brooke, U. S. A., has had his leave prolonged to enable him to remain East until the meeting of the Swaim Court-martial, Nov. 15 next.

Mrs. Lincoln, wife of Secretary of War Lincoln, was expected in New York this week to attend the marriage of Mr. A. M. Guthrie, of Pittsburg, to Miss Catherine Rhodes.

MAJOR W. L. Kellogg, 19th Infantry, who changed last summer from Michigan to Colorado, has changed again on promotion to Texas, and taken command at Fort Ringgold.

THERE is a good deal of fun made at the Navy Department over an application just received from a Wesleyan woman's college in Ohio for the detail of Ensign George F. Ormsby as an instructor there. The naval service promises to increase rapidly in popularity should the application be granted. As there is no law allowing the detail of line officers of the Navy to college duty, the application could not, of course, be granted. In this connection it might be mentioned that another effort is to be made in Congress this year to secure the necessary legislation for this purpose. A clause was put in the Naval bill last year by the House providing for the detail of twenty line officers in addition to the twenty-five engineers now allowed to perform college duty. It was done at the instance of Mr. Belford, of Colorado, who, in one of his amusing speeches, said that the colleges in his State, including those for females, were fairly crying for these young officers. The amendment was stricken out by the Senate Committee.

By direction of the President, the Court-martial ordered to meet at San Antonio, Texas, on Oct. 10, for the trial of Capt. Argalus G. Hennisee, 8th Cavalry, on the charge of conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman, in having failed to pay certain alimony decreed by the court to his divorced wife, has been dissolved. This action was taken at the solicitation of Mrs. Hennisee, who, in a recent letter to the Department, states that she has come to a satisfactory arrangement with Capt. Hennisee regarding the pay of alimony, and it was her desire to have the charges dismissed.

PASSED ASST. ENGR. N. B. Clark and wife have returned to Washington from their home in Pennsylvania and are located for the winter on 14th street, near N.

CAPT. Mason Carter, 5th U. S. Infantry, is temporarily residing at 194 Brooklyn avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y. He will proceed to Fort Keogh, M. T., when his leave of absence expires.

THE National Academy of Sciences at Newport, R. I., this week, among those present being Professor Asaph Hall, U. S. N., Home Secretary, and Professor J. H. C. Coffin, U. S. N., Treasurer, and Professor Hilgard, of the Coast of Survey. Lieut. A. W. Greely, U. S. A., was expected to attend and read a paper. Among the scientific papers presented was one by General Abbot on "Recent Progress in Explosives."

ASST. SURG. W. J. Wilson, U. S. A., arrived in St. Joseph, Mo., last week, with Mrs. Wilson and child, on his way from Dakota to Governor's Island to report to Gen. Hancock for assignment to a post in the East. On arrival at St. Joseph he was suffering from a severe attack of acute rheumatism, contracted while travelling in the stage from Fort Meade to Sidney, and had to take to his bed at the house of his brother-in-law, Mr. Browne, No. 1020 Edmond street.

CAPT. J. S. Skerrett, U. S. N., was a guest at the Colonade Hotel, Philadelphia, this week.

LIEUT. S. S. Pague, 15th Infantry, was a guest at the Merchants' Hotel, St. Paul, a few days ago.

COL. S. B. M. Young, U. S. A., of Fort Leavenworth, who has been quite sick, is convalescent.

CAPT. C. D. Viele, 10th U. S. Cavalry, on leave from Fort Stockton, Texas, visited friends in New York this week.

LIEUT.-COMDR. J. J. Brice and Chief Engineer B. F. Garvin, U. S. N., were in Philadelphia this week, the former at the Girard House and the latter at the Lafayette Hotel.

MAJOR Milton B. Adams, Corps of Engineers, U. S. A., lately assigned to Gen. Pope's staff, has taken a residence in the city of San Francisco.

GEN. Thomas Wilson, U. S. A., was expected at Fort Leavenworth this week to assume charge of subsistence matters in the Department of the Missouri.

CAPT. Chas. H. Warrens, 14th U. S. Infantry, was married at St. Louis Oct. 9 to Miss Maggie E. Goodin. The ceremony took place at the residence of the bride's brother, Mr. C. R. Goodin, 616 Channing avenue, and was performed by the Rev. Dr. Hollifield, of the Grand Avenue Presbyterian Church. About twenty-five ladies and gentlemen were present, among them Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Goodin, Miss Lila Goodin, Mr. and Mrs. Western Bascome, Dr. and Mrs. T. G. Comstock, Mrs. Adams, of Washington, D. C.; Dr. and Mrs. Hollifield, the Misses Alter, Miss Jones, Messrs. Hanson, Reisin, Alex. Smith, Sam. Goodin, and Henry Weber. In the afternoon the wedded couple left for Cincinnati, and after a short tour will go to Vancouver Barracks, W. T.

A DESPATCH from London says: "The marriage of Miss Ida Thérèse, daughter of Captain Foote, of the United States Navy, to Lord Henry William Montague Paulet, son of the Marquis of Winchester, was celebrated October 14 at St. George's Church, Hanover Square. United States Minister Lowell and a large and fashionable audience were present at the ceremonies. After a wedding breakfast at Kensington Palace the newly married pair started upon their wedding tour to Nice. The wedding presents were numerous and costly. Queen Victoria sent an antique diamond bracelet and a gold breakfast service. The Prince and Princess of Wales sent a diamond necklace and an Indian shawl. The beauty of the American bride created a great sensation. Her entire trousseau was exclusively of American manufacture and excited the admiration of all present." The only Captain Foote we ever had in our Navy was Andrew H., who was promoted from Captain to Rear Admiral July 16, 1862, and died on June 26, 1863.

GEN. George Bell, U. S. A., and family were to start from Fort Leavenworth for New York City the latter part of this week.

CAPT. Byron Wilson, U. S. N., was a guest at the Gibson House, Cincinnati, early in the week.

COL. E. F. Townsend, 11th Infantry, and family arrived in New York last week from Columbus Barracks, Ohio, and are staying at Arnold's, 113 East 14th street.

A LEAVENWORTH despatch says: Mrs. C. M. Augur left Oct. 10 for San Antonio, Texas, to visit her mother, Mrs. Col. Hall. Mr. W. W. Augur, son of Gen. Augur, and W. Holabird, son of the Quartermaster General, U. S. A., are the guests of Gen. Augur. They will return Oct. 11 with their families, who have been visiting here for some time. Col. Page, medical director of the Department, is expected to return about Oct. 20. Lieut. Hunt, of the Navy, is still a guest of his aunt, Mrs. Nichols. He is now in search of a climate which may prove beneficial to him. He will first try the dry air of Colorado, and later Southern California.

COL. Walter McFarland, Corps of Engineers, U. S. A., recently assigned to the charge of the important work of the removal of obstructions in the East River and Hell Gate, as well as the improvement of the Hudson and Harlem Rivers, Port Chester Harbor, and other harbors in the vicinity of New York City, still continues his headquarters at New Haven, Conn.

ASST. SURG. L. A. La Garde, U. S. A., was in St. Paul a few days ago, and will report next week to Gen. Terry for assignment to a post in the Department of Dakota.

GENS. H. L. Abbot and C. B. Comstock, U. S. A., were at Newport, R. I., this week, attending the sessions of the National Academy of Sciences.

ASSISTANT SURGEON H. M. Cronkrite, U. S. A., has taken charge of medical matters at Fort Reno, I. T.

ASSISTANT SURGEON J. Y. Porter, U. S. A., has been obliged to leave Texas on account of his health, and will likely spend the winter in Florida.

LIEUT. Robert Hanna, 6th Cavalry, who has been recuperating at San Diego Barracks, Cal., will shortly join his Troop at Fort Wingate, N. M.

COL. H. C. Wood, U. S. A., is at his old post in charge of the A. G. O. Headquarters Department of the Columbia, and has relieved Lieut. O. F. Long, 5th Infantry, A. D. C., from the duties of the position.

THE family of Commo. John G. Walker returned to Washington on October 16.

Mrs. Wythe Denby, Chief of the Naval Academy Division of the Secretary's Office, visited the Naval Academy on Oct. 15 on official business. He is about taking his annual leave, and will probably make a cruise at sea, to get a smell of salt water and improve his health.

DR. HARVEY W. KING, Chief of the Appointment Division of the Secretary's Office, Navy Department, resumed his duties on October 14, after a month's recreation in the mountains and at the seaside.

CAPTAIN George Cassin, Chief of the Record Division of the Secretary's Office, Navy Department, has departed for a few weeks' rest among his old comrades about Frederick, Md. He is a grandson of the late Commodore Stephen Cassin, who was a Lieutenant-Commandant under McDonough, in the celebrated Lake Champlain victory, and was voted a gold medal by Congress.

SECRETARY Chandler arrived in Concord, N. H., October 13, from New York. He will remain in his native State nearly all the time until after election. He will make a political speech Thursday night.

OF Medical Inspector C. J. Cleborne, U. S. N., who is to be detached from the Portsmouth Navy Yard October 23, the New Hampshire Gazette says: "Dr. Cleborne not only stands high in his profession, but during his term of service on the yard has won respect and good will from all with whom he has been brought in contact officially or socially; and a large number of friends will be pleased to know that on vacating the Surgeon's quarters at the yard he, with his family, will take up a temporary residence in one of the unoccupied houses on Seavey's Island, and quite possibly may remain there until the Doctor is again assigned to active service." Those who have the pleasure of knowing Dr. Cleborne and his charming family will heartily endorse this statement of the *Gazette*.

THE case of Capt. Olmsted, who was tried some time since at Fort Leavenworth on the charge of embezzlement, was referred to the President by the Secretary of War on Thursday last, and he has approved the sentence of dismissal. ASST. ENGINEER Richard T. Isabeter, U. S. N., is on his way home from the Pacific Station to undergo treatment in the Government Insane Asylum at Washington. Charges for disobedience of orders had been preferred against him, and he was about to be tried by Court-martial, when his unfortunate condition was discovered. The charges were withdrawn and he was ordered to return to Washington.

THE following Army and Navy officers registered at the Ebbitt House during the week ending Oct. 16, 1884: Army—Lt. E. W. Casey, 22d Inf.; Maj. S. S. Elder and wife, 2d Art.; Capt. E. M. Hayes and wife, 5th Cav.; Capt. W. H. Vinal, 16th Inf.; Capt. C. M. Callahan, 4th Cav.; Lt. J. H. Smith, retired. Navy—Lt. H. F. Fichbohm, Lt. E. J. Arthur.

THE long expected orders sending Col. Basil Norris, U. S. A., to the Pacific Coast, were issued on Wednesday. Washington will part with regret with so old a friend.

GEN. Stewart Van Vliet, U. S. A., registered at the 5th Avenue Hotel, New York, on Thursday.

THE following officers of the Army registered at the office of the Adjutant-General, Washington, D. C., during the current week: 1st Lt. Thomas M. Woodruff, 5th Inf., 2,010 Hillyer Place, rejoining station from detached service; Capt. Chas. M. Callahan, 4th Cav., Ebbitt House, on leave; Col. J. C. Kelton, A. A. G., St. Marc Hotel, on leave; Capt. J. H. Smith, 19th Inf., Ebbitt House, on leave.

PROGRESS IN NAVAL ARMAMENT.

Condensed from an article by Hobart Pasha in the November number of the "North American Review," for the full text of which we refer to that magazine.

LET me first draw attention to what I feel to be an important fact, and one that appears to have hitherto escaped notice. It is that the proud superiority in naval warfare claimed by England and America, on account of the boasted superior prowess of their seamen, will be seriously tested in any future war in which they may be engaged, for the simple reason that powerful artillery, well served, must take precedence of the finest seamanship in deciding the result of a naval battle. That good sea-legs, skill at the wheel, and presence of mind—qualities for which seamen of the Anglo-Saxon race are still so celebrated—will always tell in a struggle at sea, is not to be denied; but it should be borne in mind that the smallest rope accidentally fouling the screw, may deprive the ship of her manœuvring power at a critical moment; or a shell penetrating the boiler from the unprotected deck above may completely disable her. In either of such cases how unavailing would be the qualities above mentioned in the crew of the vessel thus virtually put *hors de combat*!

A glance at the general condition of naval matters shows clearly that the supremacy of England is threatened; and that a short time hence, without great exertions on her part to increase her navy, a coalition of two or more of the European powers would prove too much for her at sea. It will be the end of 1885 before the new and essentially necessary breechloaders have taken the place of the obsolete muzzle-loading artillery with which the English ironclads are still armed. These new guns will not have greater range, but will be much lighter in proportion to their calibre than the old, on account of the adoption of a new principle in their construction, that of steel tape for the coils, instead of rings of solid metal. The great advance, then, that has been at last made by England is in the direction of naval artillery. I am willing to admit that the system of enrolling the crews of ships, and the disciplining and training of men, as practiced in the British navy is all that it should be. The thoughtful consideration, also, given to the general requirements of ships, fleets and squadrons by the naval authorities is not surpassed by those of any other nation. As a proof of this, I may cite the attention now being given to the question of how to protect boilers from the effects of a plunging fire. One idea that appears to have found favor is that of having immediately over the boilers a sort of double deck, the space between to be filled either with water or some elastic substance, such as cork.

The breechloading gun has long ago replaced the muzzle-loader in the French navy; and to this point of superiority over the British must, in my opinion, be added another, the larger number of vessels built expressly for ramming. Now the ram I hold to be one of the most powerful weapons of attack that could be devised; but to make it really available in the way I would propose, the vessel so armed should be of special construction, and fitted with no other armament. To arm such vessels with heavy guns, as the British Government has done in the case of the only two vessels in its service that bear the designation of "ram," is a great mistake, as it tends to give them a position in the fleet that they ought never to occupy. They should carry nothing in the way of artillery but a few machine guns, so that the attention of those in command in time of war might never be diverted from the real purpose for which those vessels are constructed. The use of a ram in battle will go as far to revolutionize the conditions of naval warfare as has the introduction of breechloading guns and rifles those of fighting ashore; and the naval power that has neglected to provide itself with such means of attack will have as rude an awakening to its folly, should it ever be at war with another, as did the Austrians at the battle of Sadowa when the despised needle gun, gave the Prussians the victory. The French authorities are evidently convinced of the value of ramming as a mode of attack, and, in the construction of their new ironclads, have been giving special attention to power in this direction. I find in the official list no fewer than fourteen vessels set down as rams, and seeing their size, weight of armor plating, and speed, as well as armament, one cannot help being struck with their efficiency as fighting craft.

The principal weak point in the French navy is the practice of mounting the guns too high. Nearly every French ironclad carries her guns *en barbette*, or in batteries placed so far above the waterline as greatly to impair the stability of the vessel in a seaway. With any swell, these vessels roll to such a degree that it is almost impossible to use their guns. This plan of arranging the armament my experience tells me is a fatal error, which some day may cost the French very dear. The value of "all round" fire is duly appreciated in both countries; but while the French obtain the facilities in the system of barbette, turrets, and sponson batteries, the British obtain them by their indented ports and revolving turrets, combined with a low free board. The French are making every effort to perfect the training of their naval officers and seamen. Evolutionary squadrons are constantly at sea, accompanied by rams and torpedo boats, and I doubt not that, should their services be unhappily called into requisition by a European war, the French ironclads would play a gallant part and prove most formidable antagonists.

Although there is a great deal of talk about Russia's huge ironclads, both built and in course of construction, and it is a fact that she takes the lead of all the powers in respect to number of torpedo boats, I cannot think there is much to fear from her fleet, when such vessels as the *Peter the Great* and the two *Popoffkas* are among its most formidable items. Although Russia may not possess a powerful fleet with which to encounter an enemy at sea, she is fast preparing a most formidable system of coast defence. She has adopted

both the Whitehead and the Lay system of movable torpedoes, and the number of small craft specially built for the use of such weapons has now reached 120, against England's 119. Several of these boats have been passing up the Bosphorus lately. They are apparently fine sea-going craft. It is said that they can steam a thousand miles without visiting a coal depot, and that their speed is 17 or 18 knots an hour.

Germany has made immense progress of late years in naval matters. She is no longer in the same position as when the war broke out between her and France, and if the same rate of advance be maintained, it will not be long before she will have to be placed among the first-class naval powers. It is in the development of the torpedo as a weapon of war that Germany's progress is most seen. In this she takes the lead of all other countries, not excepting England. They have a very large corps of specially trained men, and such a perfect system of organization for coast defence that in a very few hours after a declaration of war the entrances to their harbors and their coasts in general can be completely blocked against the approach of the enemy. With them the practice of torpedo warfare is no mere holiday drill. High winds and a rough sea are their favorite conditions, and it is the boast of their torpedoists that they are able to attack an ironclad under circumstances that would deprive it of the use of its guns. I must confess that I do not hold the torpedo, as a weapon of offence, in so high esteem as some naval authorities appear to.

What there is of the Austrian Navy is in good condition. An Austrian man of war looks like an Austrian gentleman, well equipped, dignified, and ready for any work that might be expected of it. One point in which its navy is highly efficient is that of the *personnel*. The seamen are the descendants of those who manned the Venetian fleet of old, and their equal in courage and daring is only to be found among the sea-faring people of northern Europe. They are exceedingly well drilled, and the officers know how to handle their ships and fight them, as they showed at the battle of Lissa.

In addition to the regular navy, the Austro-Hungarian Government has a valuable auxiliary force in the ships of the subsidized Lloyd's company. The vessels are all strong enough to carry an armament of light guns, and in time of war they could be utilized either as cruisers for the destruction of the enemy's commerce, or to convoy torpedo-boats about, as did the Russian steamer *Constantine* during the late war. Italy is making greater efforts towards the attainment of naval supremacy than even England, although, in my opinion, she has chosen anything but the proper path. The construction of such large vessels as the *Dulio* and *Dandolo*, *Italia* and *Lepanto*, is a repetition of the old mistake of putting all your eggs in the same basket. I think one of these Italian vessels, attacked by three or four of the waspish craft recently built by other governments, would have a very bad time of it. Seeing that in the contest between defensive armor and the gun, the victory has always been to the latter, it is highly probable that the days of the heavily armored iron-clad will soon be numbered. It is more than likely that a short time hence an entirely new class of vessel will be looked upon as the proper type of fighting ship; and then, it may be asked, where will be the millions spent so ambitiously by presumptuous young Italy?

Denmark and Norway and Sweden are chiefly interested in defensive measures, and so are concentrating their efforts upon the increase of their torpedo craft and ram gunboats with cupola decks. The armor is to form a shield over the vessel, so as completely to protect the engines and boilers from a plunging fire. These craft will be very formidable, as they are to have a high rate of speed, and in addition to the ram are to carry torpedoes. Greece is another small country very ambitious to possess a respectable Navy. The Hellenic Government has decided to construct four very powerful armored corvettes, and the money for them having been provided, a special commission is now studying the plans and tenders sent in by the various ship building firms in Europe.

The United States, according to my views, is pursuing a wise and sensible course in regard to her naval armament. She sends into foreign waters fine, large, warlike looking corvettes, vessels of high speed, heavily armed, and well officered and manned. By this means the *personnel* of the navy receives just the training necessary for carrying on such a war of defence and reprisal as would best serve America's interests in a war with another maritime power. Fast cruisers and torpedo boats are all that America needs; the one to prey upon the enemy's commerce, and the other to keep its ironclads off her shores. Situated as they happily are, far removed from the spheres of European politics, the American people can afford to look on quietly while the arming of Europe is going on.

I cannot close this paper without some remarks upon a naval weapon regarding which all the world seems to be going mad. I have some right to do so, because I am, perhaps, the only man living in Europe who has had, while commanding a fleet, the unpleasant experience of being hunted and frequently attacked by squadrons of torpedo-boats. My experience during the Russian war has led me to depreciate the existing torpedoes as weapons of offence, and I look upon them as valuable only for their moral effect. The Turkish vessels under my command during the late war were attacked at various times by the Spar, the Harvey, and the Whitehead torpedoes. In two instances only were they successful, and that solely on account of neglect of the orders given in respect to the precautions to be taken for the protection of the vessels. Both the Harvey and the Whitehead signally failed when employed by the Russians in the Black Sea, the one at Soukhoum Kalch and the other at Batoum. It was only on the Danube, and owing to the absence of guard-boats and anything like a "crinoline" protection of spars and ropes, that a steam-launch with a spar torpedo was able, on one occasion, to effect the destruction of a small gun-boat. The Whitehead torpedo is very much overrated, accord-

ing to my way of thinking. Its movements are uncontrollable, and, once launched, everything depends upon the correctness of the aim and the immovability of the target. Experience has shown that there is no chance of a hit where the range is over five hundred yards, and the lookout must be poor indeed that cannot signal the approach of a hostile craft before she arrives within that distance.

The Lay torpedo I consider to be a much better weapon than the Whitehead for attacking ships when passing through narrow channels, on account of the perfect command that the electrical steering gear gives the operator over its movements. It ought, however, to possess more speed and a greater degree of invisibility than were shown during the experiments carried out some years ago in the Bosphorus. To produce a really serviceable locomotive torpedo, the following conditions must be fulfilled: First, a high rate of speed, and an effective range of not less than a mile; secondly, invisibility, or, what would answer the same purpose, such a system of construction as would be a guarantee against its sinking from the effects of Nordenfolt projectiles or shell fire; thirdly, perfect command over its movements, so that a change of aim may be made at any time during the run; and, fourthly, one of the most important conditions of all, the capability of conveying and exploding charges of gun cotton or dynamite at least twice as heavy as those now carried by the Whitehead, at depths greater than those to which the armor belts of iron clads are likely to extend. All these conditions General Berdan declares his system of locomotive torpedoes will fulfill. He has been experimenting at Constantinople for some time past, and is still confident of success. I offer no opinion, either on this point or on the system he is engaged in perfecting, but will confine my remarks to saying that should he really succeed in producing a weapon that can do all he claims for it, the conditions of naval warfare will be completely revolutionized.

(From the Morning Advertiser.)

ANOTHER POLAR EXPEDITION.

It is announced that Mr. Melville, chief engineer of the *Jeannette* expedition, will command a Polar expedition which is to start next autumn upon an effort to reach the North Pole by way of Franz Josef Land. Should this enterprise really be organized it will be, we may assume, an attempt to make good the conclusion arrived at by Lieutenant Greely and the experts associated with him. Greely is of opinion, first, that Captain Nares's theory of a palæocystic sea, or frozen ocean, surrounding the Pole, is groundless. He believes, on the contrary, that the grand secret is bounded by open water, "hemmed by an inviolate sea," but certainly not by a "gelid realm" such as Captain Nares in an idea of splendid desolation presents us with. It is furthermore Lieutenant Greely's opinion that, if the Pole proves accessible at all, the way to it will be by Franz Josef Land. The reasons upon which this view is based need not be given here; it is enough that they are considered sufficient to warrant a fresh endeavor to pluck out the heart of the mystery. There is nothing more heroic and more sad in the records of human enterprise than the struggle between the navigator and the sphinx of the North. She sits, as in Bjornsten's fantastic and powerful ode, a veiled figure, cold, cruel, "unuttering, unutterable," she lurks among eternal snows as her sister lurked among everlasting sands, and tempts the brave and adventurous with her stark riddle and its terrible forfeit. Undismayed by previous failure and penalty, there are never lacking bold spirits to pit their fate to the hazard and take up the challenge with which Nature in her unconquered fastness continually provokes and baffles the master who has overcome her in every other region of the earth. It has been long ago agreed, as regards Polar exploration, that the game is not worth the candle.

The scientists have a great deal to say in vindication of the energy and expense vainly laid out upon the untractable aim. They remind us of the obscurities still enveloping the theory of the magnetic pole and the compass, they suggest the incomprehensible phenomena of the aurora borealis, they talk of the importance to geography, geodesy, geology, botany, zoology, and other studies of a knowledge of the northern *terra incognita*. It is beyond comparison the largest field of exploration now left us. We have traversed the Dark Continent, we have penetrated to middle Tibet and "The Roof of the World." We have torn the veil which invested with the glamour of legend or of imperfect information the inner life and aspect of two continents, and have familiarized ourselves with whatever strange reality we found to exist in them. In Australia and South America, what we have seen of the land contents our interest in what we have yet to behold. We are able to judge the one from the other, and are satisfied that our estimate does not widely err. But the northern realm is a mystery as complete as it is vast. The sealed region is bounded on the European side by the 80th parallel of latitude, except where Scoresby, Parry, Nares, Greely and a very few others broke a degree or two into its rigid circumference. On the Asiatic side it extends fully 74 degrees, while westward of Behring's Straits our knowledge is confined to the 72nd degree. In some directions, according to Mr. Clements Markham, secretary to the Geographical Society, it is fifteen hundred miles across and expands over 1½ millions of square miles. Between 70 degrees and 80 degrees there is an intervening belt separating the known from the unknown, and it is within this neutral girdle that the Arctic navigator, from Otto the son of Eric, down to his modern successor, has hitherto been fated to waste his futile effort. Polar exploration, generally speaking, has not been unprofitable. It has, on the contrary, been the origin of important commercial advantages. It has led, for example, to the establishment of the remunerative whaling enterprise; it opened the way to the fur trade of Hudson's Bay Territory, and opened the field for industrial enterprises in other

directions. The scientific are considered by the enthusiasts of exploration far superior to the commercial results. And no doubt, apart from the gratification of a laudable curiosity, the Polar regions offer to the investigator subjects of special interest. The law of gravitation, as tested by experiments with the pendulum, would be usefully elucidated; that wonderful apparition, the aurora borealis, which cannot be adequately observed from comparatively low latitudes, would be studied in its native heaven; meteorology, the temperature and tides of the sea, the phenomena of extreme cold as exhibited in the geological conditions of the northern regions—these are topics of inquiry which may be held to justify the endeavors of many Governments and the public-spirited exertions of private individuals. As regards the zoological question, the investigation of the polar mollusca, marine and fresh-water, is held of special interest from a scientific standpoint. The botanist again invites us to bear in mind that, so far as it has been studied, no other flora known to naturalists presents such a remarkable combination of peculiar features as that of the Arctic regions. Experts continue in sharp controversy respecting its origin and perpetuation, and the opinion is that no satisfactory solution is possible until the navigator has opened for the *savant* a road to the pole or its near neighborhood.

(Condensed from an Article in the United Service Magazine)

THE SOLDIERS OF CANADA.

CANADA has a military organization of about 39,000 men. There are 750 regulars, 500 mounted police, and about 37,750 men in what is called the "active militia"—a politico-military organization with a heroic name. The regulars are composed of three field batteries, three infantry companies, and one troop of cavalry. These three field batteries constitute "the Canadian Regiment of Artillery," and it is the pride of the Canadian military system. The officers are experienced artillerymen, and most of them have passed through the military college at Kingston, where the examinations are, perhaps, as stiff as they are at Sandhurst or West Point. The three regular infantry companies are, however, of more recent formation. The regular troop of cavalry is only now in process of formation. The squadrons will be detached, and part of the troops will be stationed at the headquarters of each of the infantry companies. It was found necessary to establish these companies or "schools," as they are called, in order to have some place at which the officers of the "active militia" could learn the difference between a range-finder from a gauge-crusher, or a skirmish line from a square.

The mounted police are, to all intents and purposes, a regular force, and between them and the other regular troops Canada has 1,250 men who, if they do not present a front like Mars, make a fairly presentable appearance, and who are fairly efficient in the science of legal slaughter.

Next in order we have the "active militia," a kind of military Tammany, made up of cavalry, field, garrison, and mountain artillery, engineers, mounted rifles, and infantry, in all about 37,500 men. This force is composed of fine, stalwart fellows, raw-boned sons of the North, whom Lord Wolseley, in the early days of his campaigning, spoke of as the perfection of material for the dreary march, the unsheltered bivouac, or the sterner duties of the trench or the escalade. But they are not now—and under the present system of organization never can be—efficient even as militiamen. They are, to begin with, too often used for political purposes, and military discipline is too often made subordinate to political exigency.

In each "military district" there are two staff officers who are in permanent duty. The officer in command of a district is called a "deputy adjutant-general," and his assistant a "brigade major." These gentlemen are supposed to do all the work in their respective districts for the paltry salary of seventeen hundred and twelve hundred dollars a year respectively. Once a year these staff officers inspect the different corps, their arms and accoutrements, and from their annual reports we find enough to convince us that the active militia of Canada is, perhaps, the worst officered, the worst drilled, and the worst equipped militia force of any pretensions in the world. It is, for instance, customary for the rural militiamen to only drill for twelve days every second year. As the men enlist for five years, they would thus only have twenty-four days' drill during the term of their enlistment. If the Sundays are deducted, we will have twenty or twenty-one days' drill as the maximum in which it is expected to convert a hay seed into a trained soldier experienced in all the arts of "War's magnificently stern array!"

The active militia of Canada is, as a satire on military organization, a great success. In such a force it may be assumed that discipline is lax; in fact, that there is no discipline at all. Officers and men resign just when it pleases them. The authorities never object. They absent themselves from drill or other duty and no one minds. Fines are never imposed and courts-martial are unknown. There is a little stoppage of pay if a man does not attend drill regularly during the twelve days' annual training, but that is all. There is no extra fine, and as for courts-martial, such a thing was hardly ever heard of. If they are late for drill—and they nearly always are—they fall in the ranks as if nothing happened. But perhaps the condition of the men's rifles is the worst feature of the many bad ones, in the condition of the "active militia" in Canada. Every competent staff officer in Canada has the same story to tell—rusty rifles condemned, not repaired, still in use; and the ball goes on, the deusion is kept at full swing while the politico-military organization exists on the shadow of a name. And nearly all the mischief, if mischief it be, is done by the captains of companies. It is a coveted prize in rural Canada to command a company of militia, or at least to draw the perquisites attached to that warlike office. The lieutenants or majors are nobodies in the eyes of the patriots, the limit

of whose military command is confined to forty-two men with rifles for twenty or twenty-one days every half decade. The souls of the captains are aglow with military ardor, and for dollars. Such captain of a rural corps gets \$40 a year for care of arms, and \$40 for drilling his company. If his company is not called out for drill he gets \$20, so that each captain averages \$70 a year, and this in rural Canada is a prize worth looking after, even if there are no men to drill, and the arms are "old, worn in the grooves, and therefore unserviceable." The authorities at Ottawa do not want to hear of the militia being unfavorably criticized. The men who compose the force are quietly used for political purposes, or at least the authorities pass over the blemishes of their friends, and their first consideration is the triumph of the party, and for that the militia and everything else must be made subservient. Few of the many ex-officers of the British Army who reside in Canada will, except in a staff capacity, have anything to do with them. They look on them as "something for mirth, yea, for their laughter." And yet this force costs the people of Canada about \$750,000 per annum. Compared with the American system, the Canadian militia is proportionally more numerous.

THE PRIME MERIDIAN.

The International Prime Meridian Conference held an interesting meeting on Tuesday, the result of which was that the meridian of Greenwich henceforth will be the world's starting place in all east and west computations. Mr. Rutherford, on Tuesday, renewed his original resolution, viz.:

The conference proposes to the Governments here represented the adoption of the meridian passing through the centre of the transit instrument at the Observatory of Greenwich as the initial meridian for longitude.

Mr. Fleming, of Canada, moved as an amendment that the conference adopt the 180th degree of longitude, west or east from Greenwich, as the prime meridian, but the other delegates from Great Britain opposed this amendment, and it was lost. Mr. Valera, the Spanish Minister, stated that he had been instructed by his Government, in voting for the meridian of Greenwich, to say that he hoped that the metrical system of weights and measures would be adopted by England, the United States, and the other nations here represented as recommended by the conference at Rome. General Strachey, of Great Britain, said he was authorized to state that his country had asked to be allowed to join the Metrical Convention, and that the metrical system was already recognized by the laws of Great Britain and was in use for scientific purposes. He could not, however, say that it would be adopted under any circumstances as the popular system of weights and measures throughout the kingdom.

Mr. W. F. Allen, of the United States, made an argument in behalf of the meridian of Greenwich, and presented the resolutions adopted by the Railroad Convention, in Philadelphia, protesting against a change of meridian. Mr. Lefevre, of France, said that the meridian of Greenwich was not the scientific meridian; that it implied no progress in any of the sciences, but was merely a commercial standard. Since, therefore, nothing would be gained to science by adopting Greenwich, France could not make a sacrifice of her own meridian, and incur the vast expense consequent upon the adoption of a new one, because she would thereby gain no advantage whatever.

Sir Frederick Evans, of Great Britain, then presented a comparative statement showing that the tonnage of shipping controlled by the Greenwich standard of longitude was in round numbers 14,000,000 tons, while that controlled by the Paris standard was only 1,735,000 tons. He also submitted a statement of the number of charts, etc., purchased by nations outside of Great Britain for scientific and commercial purposes, in order to show how largely that meridian is now being used. Mr. Rutherford's resolution in favor of Greenwich as the prime meridian was then adopted, twenty-one nations voting in favor of it, one, San Domingo, again at it, and France and Brazil abstaining from voting. Mr. Rutherford then moved the adoption of the following resolution:

From this meridian (Greenwich) longitude shall be counted in two directions up to 180 deg. east longitude being plus and west longitude minus.

The Russian Minister spoke in favor of this resolution. Count Lewenhaupt, the Swedish Minister, moved to adopt the fourth resolution of the Roman conference, counting longitude continuously through the whole 360 degrees. Baron von Alvensleben, the German Minister, said that this was a matter of detail and that he could not vote upon it. The British delegates agreed with the German Minister, and said it did not make any difference which method was adopted. Juan Pastorin, one of the delegates from Spain, moved as an amendment that longitude be counted westward continuously around the world.

At the meeting, Oct. 14, a resolution was adopted providing that longitude should be counted from the meridian of Greenwich in two directions up to 180 deg. east longitude plus and west longitude minus. A resolution was also adopted that "the conference proposes the adoption of a universal day for the purposes for which it may be found convenient, and which shall not interfere with the use of local or other standard times where desirable." An adjournment was taken until Monday, when a resolution will be considered that "this universal day is to be a mean solar day, is to begin for all the world at the moment of mean midnight of the initial meridian, coinciding with the beginning of the civil day and date of that meridian, and is to be counted from zero up to 24 hours." The President will receive the delegates at the White House at noon Thursday.

At Kittery, Maine, on Thursday evening of last week, Carpenter Leonard Hanson, U. S. N., was presented by friends with a handsome sword and belt, and Mrs. Hanson with a fine silver tea service, as tokens of the esteem felt for them by their neighbors and acquaintances.

We are requested to announce that the Boys in Blue Club of the Flagnip Tennessee, will give their 5th Annual Complimentary Ball at Irving Hall, New York, Friday evening, October 24, 1884. The members wish to give these balls yearly, thus providing their friends and relatives with an evening of pleasure, with a sumptuous supper included.

One of the clerks in the file room of the House has been occupied since the adjournment of Congress making a consolidated index of all the Southern claims growing out of the late war. There are about 26,000 claims, amounting to several hundred million dollars. The object of all this work is, they say, to have them in order to be easily handled should Congress validate them at any time.

THE ARMY.

G. O. 114, H. Q. A., Oct. 13, 1884.

By direction of the Secretary of War, par. 185 of the Regulations is amended to read as follows:

185. Arms will not be taken to pieces by soldiers unless by permission of a commissioned officer, nor under any circumstances will attempts be permitted to beautify or change the finish of the exterior by altering the metallic or wooden parts. The mutilation by filing, or otherwise, of any part of the arms is strictly prohibited, and in all cases the person so offending will be held accountable under the Rules and Articles of War. Arms shall not be left loaded in quarters or tents, or when the men are off duty, except under special orders. The use of tompons in small arms is prohibited. The surface of the bore will be protected from rust by occasional use of an oiled rag.

By command of Lieut. Gen. Sheridan:

R. C. DRUM, Adjt.-Gen.

CIRCULAR 9, H. Q. A., Oct. 10, 1884.

The following decisions, rulings, etc., have been made during the month of September, 1884, and are published to the Army for the information of all concerned:

PAYMENT OF INTERPRETERS TO COURTS-MARTIAL.

The decision published in Circular 7, c. s., from this office, should read as follows:

Interpreters to Courts-martial are paid by the Pay Department upon the certificate of the judge advocate that they were employed by order of the court. They will be allowed the pay and allowances of a citizen witness.—[Letter, Sept. 22, 84.]

MILEAGE.

Mileage for a journey performed by a recruiting officer, in obedience to legitimate orders, for the purpose of delivering to a court a return to a writ of *habeas corpus*, is payable from the appropriation for that purpose disbursed by the Pay Department.—[Letter, Sept. 4, 84.]

FIGURE OF MERIT IN TARGET PRACTICE.

Field officers who have practiced during the target year may be considered in calculating the figures of merit of the organizations to which they belong.—[Letter, Sept. 8, 84.]

In addition to the exceptions authorized by G. O. 25, series of 1883, and G. O. 12, c. s., from this office, men in confinement, under guard, during the entire target practice season will be disregarded in computing the figure of merit.—[Letter, Sept. 8, 84.]

When an officer or man is transferred at any time during the target year, he will be accompanied by a certificate of his best scores made in his former command; and he will be taken up in his new organization with full credits attained in his last one, and will be disregarded in determining the figure of merit of the organization from which he was transferred.—[Letter, Sept. 10, 84.]

FLOUR RATION.

The non-commissioned staff officers of the Army can only draw bread from the post bakery the same as other enlisted men.—[Letter, Sept. 8, 84.]

FORMATION OF A BATTALION COMPOSED OF FRACTIONS OF DIFFERENT REGIMENTS.

When a single battalion is made up of fractions of two or more regiments, there is no interval between the companies, and they are arranged as prescribed in the last clause of par. 305, page 152, Infantry Tactics.—[Letter, Sept. 10, 84.]

REGAN'S MANUAL OF GUARD DUTY.

This work is not an authorized publication of the War Department, in the same sense as are the prescribed Regulations and Tactics.—[Letter, Sept. 11, 84.]

MUSTER FOR EXTRA DUTY PAY.

The muster of a soldier for any arrears of extra duty pay earned in a hospital at another post must be made on the rolls of his company and not on the rolls of the hospital at the post to which he may have been transferred.—[Letter, Sept. 12, 84.]

PURCHASES IN OPEN MARKET.

The provisions as to purchase in open market in act of July 5, 1884 (G. O. 65, c. s., from this office), do not apply to purchases of the regular supplies made for national cemeteries.—[Letter, Sept. 16, 84.]

The purchase in open market of the needed spare parts of mowing machines does not, as a rule, admit of competition, and need not, therefore, be reported for approval, as required for other purchases in open market by act of July 5, 1884 (G. O. 65, c. s., from this office).—[Letter, Sept. 24, 84.]

TACTICS.

Companies on the skirmish line should not retain their battalion designation, but should be numbered from right to left. Bayonets should be fixed at the command "Rally by divisions," as the movement is prescribed for a battalion threatened by cavalry. In the "Rally on the battalion" bayonets should not be fixed by the skirmishers, unless the colonel orders his battalion to fix bayonets before ordering the "rally."—[Letter, Sept. 18, 84.]

PRIVATE HORSES.

The Regulations do not require a mounted officer to own more than one horse; they only require him to be supplied with private mounts sufficient for the proper and efficient performance of his duties.—[Letter, Sept. 24, 84.]

ACTING SERGEANT MAJOR.

An acting sergeant major should be recognized as such by the non-commissioned officers, whether junior or not.—[Letter, Sept. 25, 84.]

AMMUNITION.

When a company does not receive its full allowance of ammunition during any target year, the equivalent of the deficiency cannot be issued and used, in addition to the regular allowance, for the next following year.—[Letter, Sept. 25, 84.]

TARGET PRACTICE.

To discontinue an incomplete low score and begin anew, for the purpose of disregarding bad shots, in violation of the spirit of G. O. 53, of 1882, from this office, and must not be practiced.—[Letter, Sept. 25, 84.]

RAILROAD TRANSPORTATION FOR PARTIES IN PURSUIT OF DESERTERS.

The extent of railroad transportation which a post commander is authorized to order for parties in pursuit of deserters must be left to his good judgment and discretion.—[Letter, Sept. 25, 84.]

FORAGE.

Par. 1893 of the Regulations clearly means that mounted officers shall not draw forage animals while using, in service, public animals.—[Letter, Sept. 25, 84.]

PAYMENTS TO SOLDIERS.

A soldier tried for desertion is mustered June 30 as awaiting promulgation of the proceedings of the court, which on July 2 are promulgated acquitting him. On the question, should he be allowed pay when payment is made on this roll July 7, it has been decided that a payment made on a muster-roll must accord with the record thereon. If from the record on the roll a soldier is disqualified from receiving pay at the date of muster, no payment can be made to him on the muster-rolls of that date.—[Letter, Sept. 27, 84.]

NON-RELOADING AMMUNITION.

Non-reloading ammunition is charge of an acting ordnance officer at a post is "in the hands of the troops." In the sense that term is used in G. O. 12, c. s., from this office.—[Letter, Sept. 29, 84.]

The leave of absence granted 2d Lieut. C. W. Abbot, Jr.,

Madison Barracks, N. Y., is extended one month (S. O. 66, Oct. 14, Div. A.)

Official information has been received of the promotion of 2d Lieut. Millard F. Waltz to 1st Lieutenant, Oct. 15, 1884, vice Geary, resigned, which carries him from Co. G, at Madison Barracks, to Co. I, at Plattsburg Barracks, N. Y. Lieut. Waltz will join his company (S. O. 211, Oct. 16, D. East.)

15TH INFANTRY, Colonel Joseph N. G. Whistler.

1st Lieut. Samuel S. Pague is relieved from further duty at Fort Snelling, Minn., and will proceed to Fort Buford, D. T. (S. O. 119, Oct. 11, D. Dak.)

17TH INFANTRY, Colonel Charles O. Gilbert.

Leave of absence for twenty days is granted Major James S. Casey, Fort A. Lincoln, D. T., to take effect at such date during October as he may elect (S. O. 117, Oct. 8, D. Dak.)

18TH INFANTRY, Colonel Thomas H. Ruger.

Leave of absence for fifteen days is granted Capt. Birney B. Keeler, Fort Maginnis, M. T. (S. O. 118, Oct. 10, D. Dak.)

19TH INFANTRY, Colonel Charles H. Smith.

Major W. L. Kellogg will proceed to Fort Ringgold, Tex., and assume command of that post (S. O. 136, Oct. 6, D. Tex.) Leave of absence for twenty days, to take effect about Nov. 1, is granted Lieut.-Col. Z. R. Bliza, Fort Clark, Tex. (S. O. 137, Oct. 8, D. Tex.)

The extension of leave granted Capt. Jacob H. Smith is still further extended to Dec. 1, 1884 (S. O. 10, Oct. 10, H. Q. A.)

22ND INFANTRY, Colonel P. T. Swaine.

The leave of absence granted 1st Lieut. Edward W. Casey is extended two days (S. O., Oct. 13, H. Q. A.)

23RD INFANTRY, Colonel Henry M. Black.

Leave of absence for twenty days is granted Major J. S. Fletcher, Jr., Fort Porter, N. Y. (S. O. 207, Oct. 11, D. East.)

Leave of absence for two months, with permission to apply for an extension of one month, is granted 1st Lieut. C. H. Heyl, Fort Wayne, Mich. (S. O. 67, Oct. 15, Div. A.)

1st Lieut. William C. Menning is relieved from duty in the Dept. of Missouri, and will proceed to join his regiment in the Dept. of East (S. O., Oct. 16, H. Q. A.)

25TH INFANTRY, Colonel George L. Andrews.

Leave of absence for thirty days is granted 1st Lieut. James C. Ord, Fort Meade, D. T. (S. O. 118, Oct. 10, D. Dak.)

Appointments, Promotions, Retirements, Transfers, Casualties, etc., of Commissioned Officers of the U. S. Army recorded in the Adjutant-General's Office during the week ending Saturday, October 11, 1884.

CASUALTY.

1st Lieutenant James S. Marsteller, 24th Infantry, accidentally killed October 7, 1884, while hunting, near Fort Elliott, Texas.

MILITARY ACADEMY.

The resignation of Cadet Harvey Wood, 4th Class, is accepted by the Secretary of War (S. O., Oct. 11, H. Q. A.)

COURTS-MARTIAL.

The following courts have been ordered:

At Fort Concho, Tex., Oct. 13. Detail: Major O. B. Mo Lellan and Capt. W. B. Kennedy, 10th Cav.; 1st Lieuts. William Lassiter and O. B. Tyler, 16th Inf.; 2d Lieuts. J. W. Watson and J. B. McDonald, 10th Cav.; 2d Lieut. W. K. Wright, 16th Inf., and 1st Lieut. L. C. Allen, Adj. 16th Inf., Judge-Advocate (S. O. 137, Oct. 8, D. Tex.)

At Fort Ellis, M. T., Oct. 20. Detail: Capt. James A. Snyder, 3d Inf.; Capt. Max Wessendorf, 1st Cav.; Capt. William Mitchell, 3d Inf.; 1st Lieut. Frederick K. Ward, 1st Cav.; 1st Lieut. Fayette W. Roe and 2d Lieut. William C. Butler, 3d Inf.; 2d Lieut. Jacob G. Galbraith, 1st Cav., and 1st Lieut. Lorenzo W. Cooke, 3d Inf., Judge-Advocate (S. O. 116, Oct. 7, D. Dak.)

At Jefferson Barracks, Mo., Oct. 20. Detail: Major John R. McGuinness, Ord. Dept.; Capt. Joseph K. Corson, Asst. Surg.; 1st Lieut. Gustavus Valois, 9th Cav.; 1st Lieut. Henry W. Sprole, 8th Cav.; 1st Lieut. John W. Martin, 4th Cav.; 2d Lieut. Enoch H. Crowder, 8th Cav., and 1st Lieut. Henry H. Boiles, 4th Cav., Judge-Advocate (S. O. Oct. 11, H. Q. A.)

At Mount Vernon Barracks, Ala., Oct. 23. Detail: Capt. James R. Kelly, 3d Art.; Capt. Richards Barrett, Asst. Surg.; 1st Lieut. W. A. Kobbé, C. S. D. C. Danes, J. M. Califf, and C. B. Satterlee, and 2d Lieut. Louis Ostheim, 3d Art., and 2d Lieut. H. C. Davis, 3d Art., Judge-Advocate (S. O. 210, Oct. 15, D. East.)

ARMY BOARDS.

A Board of Officers, to consist of Major John I. Rodgers, Capt. F. E. Taylor, and Capt. J. W. MacMurray, 1st Art., A. E. O., will proceed, Oct. 6, to the entrance of Puget Sound, W. T., and such other points as may be necessary, and examine the sites which are retained by the Government for military reserves, and withhold for defensive purposes, particularly those in the vicinity of Port Townsend and Deception Pass, W. T. The Board will report what, in its opinion, is the position of the first importance for occupation by troops, and the strength of garrison necessary for the same, and will submit estimates covering the probable cost of the construction of suitable defensive works, and the requisite buildings essential for the shelter and accommodation of the troops and supplies which may effectively garrison the same (S. O. 148, Oct. 2, D. Columbia.)

A Board of Survey will meet at the Subsistence Depot, San Francisco, Cal., Oct. 3, to report upon a shortage in a lot of sugar received from Major M. P. Small, C. S. Detail: Major G. H. Weeks, Q. M.; Major W. E. Crary, Paym., and Capt. G. A. Hull, M. S. K. (S. O. 100, Oct. 1, Div. F.)

A Board of Officers, to consist of Col. A. F. Perry, Asst. Q. M. Gen.; Lieut. Col. Roger Jones, Asst. Insp.-Gen.; Lieut.-Col. H. W. Closson, 5th Art.; Surg. J. H. Janeway, U. S. A., and Major B. H. Jackson, 5th Art., will meet at Fort Hamilton, N. Y. H., Oct. 14, to recommend a site for brick barracks to be constructed for the light battery convenient to its stables (S. O. 206, Oct. 10, D. East.)

A Board of Survey, to consist of Capt. H. W. Wessells, Jr., 3d Cav.; 1st Lieut. Matthew Markland, 1st Inf., and 2d Lieut. T. B. Rivers, 3d Cav., will meet at Whipple Depot, A. T., Oct. 8, to examine into the alleged loss of a certain amount of barley, for which Capt. C. W. Williams, A. Q. M., is responsible (S. O. 99, Oct. 7, D. Ariz.)

Engineer Battalion.—In recent orders General Abbot directs that engineer drills be discontinued until further orders, and that drills in infantry be resumed and continued daily. The order further gives directions as to when the canvas fatigue suits shall be worn by the men, and directs that "when out of barracks and not on fatigue duty soldiers must always be neatly dressed."

DEPARTMENT NEWS.

Division of the Missouri.—A "Roster of Troops," dated Oct. 1, came to hand acceptably this week. There has been little change in troops since the date of last staff. We note one addition to the Division staff, viz., Lieut.-Colonel Chas. G. Bartlett, 1st Infantry, Inspector of Rifle Practice, who has not yet arrived in Chicago, but is expected in a few weeks.

Department of California.—There has been some good heavy artillery practice lately on the Pacific as well as on the Atlantic Coast. At Fort Winfield Scott there were two points aimed at, and the distances were 2,000 and 2,200 yards. The two guns used were 4½ inch rifled cannon, from which were discharged fourteen shots and shells—Hotchkiss solid shot, weighing 35½ pounds and Absterdam shells of from 25 to 30 pounds, the latter including both the percussion and the time fuse. Each gun was managed by eight men, the whole being commanded by Capt. E. Van A. Andrus, 1st U. S. Artillery. The shooting was pronounced by Colonel Randol to be quite satisfactory. Subsequent practice took place with Major C. P. Eakin in command, followed by Major Tully McCrea.

Department of the Platte.—The Omaha Herald says: "A review, inspection and drill of the troops took place Tuesday and Wednesday, and showed them to be in a high degree of efficiency. Tuesday was cold and rainy, a trying day for the men, and Col. E. C. Mason, U. S. A., Inspector General, who commanded the review, appeared to put them 'through the motions' with a liveliness that warmed them agreeably. All who witnessed the battalion drill on Tuesday and the light battery drill on Wednesday, expressed themselves as highly pleased with the display. Major Rawles' battery, while moving at a gallop, broke the pole of a limber, but the damage was repaired by substituting the limber of a caisson, and so quickly that it afforded a creditable illustration of how ready the artillery were to meet an ordinary emergency."

Department of Missouri.—A Leavenworth despatch says: Lieut. Niles, 2d Artillery, has sworn out a warrant against Niel Chumbe, a servant employed by him, for stealing \$176. Suspicion points very strongly to Chumbe, as he was the only person in the house while Lieut. Niles was out on drill. He was at once arrested and placed in the guard house to await the action of the civil authorities. Only a short time ago Lieut. Greble lost a lot of valuables from his room including a fine gold watch for which he has offered \$50 reward.

Department of Dakota.—General Terry has issued instructions to post commanders: That when practicable detachments travelling with public transportation procure from posts and carry with them the necessary forage for use of the public animals while en route; that Post Quartermasters invite proposals for the delivery of, at the usual halting places on the roads leading from their respective posts to other posts, landings or railroad stations mostly travelled by detachments, the necessary fuel, grain and hay, in such quantities and at such times as needed during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1885; delivery to be made to the detachments on the ground at the time and not to be stored or held, in order that Post Quartermasters may not be responsible for property not under their immediate charge and control. That whenever it is impracticable to provide for delivery of fuel, grain and hay under agreement and purchase in open market is unavoidable, reports of such purchases be made through Dept. Headquarters for the approval of the Secretary of War, giving full particulars of the emergency, and if the competition for open market purchase required by the instruction of the Quartermaster General, dated September 12, 1884, cannot be obtained that it be so stated in the report.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

CAMP SECOND ARTILLERY.

FAUQUIER SPRINGS, VA., Oct. 11.

We are breaking camp to-day. Orders were given yesterday, Oct. 10, to begin to send off the heavier baggage in advance. Thursday night it was frightfully cold here, the mercury falling 30 deg. in a few hours; and yesterday morning there was frost in the valleys in the vicinity. The hotel proprietor is selling out his furniture, and will close the house on Monday or Tuesday, so it is time to go. All the guests have gone long ago. We will probably strike the last tents and begin the return march on Wednesday morning at the farthest.

You see, we have 7 miles of hauling for all our stuff, before we can get it on board the cars, and we will not more than get it all shipped by Tuesday night.

We will march through Warrenton, Buckland's Mills, Gainesville, Bull Run and Fairfax Court House, which is the interesting route by which we came.

PRESENTATION OF PRIZES AT GOVERNOR'S ISLAND.

At the conclusion, a few weeks ago, of the Division of the Atlantic rifle competitions at Creedmoor, the medals were not ready for distribution to the successful marksmen, so Major General Hancock ordered a special presentation for Wednesday of this week, and that the occasion might be more impressive had the battalion of artillery, at Fort Columbus, paraded, and the excellent band of the 5th U. S. Artillery was in attendance. Promptly at 11 A. M. General Hancock and his staff repaired to the parade ground where the marksmen and troops were assembled and after a few formalities presented the prizes, with a few remarks suitable to the occasion. The recipients were as follows:

1. Private James Cranley, Battery E, 4th Art., the Division gold medal; the Department of the East gold medal, and the Department of the East skirmishers' medal.
2. 1st Sergeant W. O. Vincent, Battery M, 5th Art., Division gold medal.
3. Sergeant William Harrell, Company H, 23d Inf., Division gold medal.
4. 1st Sergeant Joseph Pettit, Company F, 12th Inf., Division gold medal.
5. Private Franklin W. Yates, Battery H, 4th Art., Division silver medal.
6. Corporal George F. Lockhart, Battery M, 4th Art., Division silver medal.

7. Sergeant Jonathan Helcher, Battery G, 5th Art., Division silver medal.

8. Sergeant Richard J. Williams, Battery B, 2d Art., Division silver medal.

9. Corporal Henry Cane, Company A, 23d Inf., Division silver medal.

10. Sergeant W. H. Long, Battery G, 1st Art., Division silver medal.

11. 1st Lieutenant H. R. Anderson, 4th Art., Division silver medal and the Division skirmishers' medal.

12. 1st Sergeant John Berger, Battery M, 2d Art., Division silver medal.

It was expected that the Hilton trophy and the accompanying fourteen medals won by the Division Atlantic team at Creedmoor would reach Governor's Island in time to be formally presented on this occasion, but much to the general regret the trophy and medals did not come to hand.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

THE MILITARY ACADEMY.

OCTOBER 16, 1884.

DURING the past week there have been several arrivals at the post, among whom may be mentioned Col. Piteher and Mrs. Piteher; Delaney Kane, wife, and daughter, and Lieut. Travis, 11th Infantry, from Fort Sully, D. K.

Lieut. Welburn, 5th Cavalry, left on Friday last to take the benefit of his leave and to improve his health.

Dr. Smith has had some flower beds made in front of the new hospital, and is preparing them for next spring.

The remains of Mrs. Church, widow of Professor Church, were brought to the post at 4:30 P. M. yesterday and deposited alongside those of her husband in the cemetery.

The Cadet Hop on Saturday evening, held in No. 1 room, Academic Building, was a success.

Visitors still continue to come to West Point Hotel, there being quite a number there at present—more than usual at this time of year.

"Cranston's" closed yesterday, the day boats having stopped running, the only boat now in the day time being the *Brett*, arriving here at 2:50 P. M. daily from New York City.

I observe that Gen. Keyes, a graduate of the Academy of 1832, has some pleasant words for his Alma Mater in his volume of reminiscences just published. Among other things, he says:

The Military Academy has already had numerous enemies, but in my opinion it is an invaluable institution in many respects. It constitutes the only society of human beings that I have known in which the standing of an individual is dependent wholly upon his own merits so far as they can be ascertained without extraneous influences. The son of the poorest and most obscure man, being admitted as a cadet, has an equal chance to gain the honors of his class with the son of the most powerful and the richest man in the country. All must submit to the same discipline, wear the same clothes, eat at the same table, come and go upon the same conditions. Birth, avarice, fashion and connections are without effect to determine promotion or punishment; consequently the Military Academy is a model republic in all things saving respect to constituted authority and obedience to orders, without which an army is impossible.

COURT MARTIAL CASES.

In his review of the recent case of Lieut. C. F. Tillson, 5th Infantry, which we gave last week, Gen. Terry sets forth the following interesting points of military law:

"It is settled law that the fact that a member of the court is to be called as a witness for the Government is not, in itself, a sufficient ground for a challenge. But in order that a member may testify as a witness he must have some knowledge of the facts, for otherwise he could give no relevant testimony. How then can it be that knowledge of some of the facts of a case shall, of itself, be a ground of challenge, when knowledge of some or all of the facts coupled with the fact that the member is to be called as a witness is not a ground of challenge. Members of Courts-martial should remember that the allowance of a challenge is not a matter of discretion; they are required by the 88th Article of War to determine 'the relevancy and validity' of all challenges. This determination is a judicial determination, and courts are bound to determine such questions in accordance with established principles and rules of law. It is as much their duty to overrule a challenge when no relevant and valid grounds for it are shown as it is their duty to sustain a challenge when its relevancy and validity are proven."

In the case of Private John Parks, Troop C, 9th Cavalry, recently tried at Fort Sill, I. T., for insubordination, and acquitted, the reviewing authority, Gen. Augur, says:

"The record in this case shows that much time was spent by the court in dispute between some of the members as to the extent of the authority of the president of the court. In view of the provisions of par. 833, Army Regulations, there seems to be little room for question upon the matters that were discussed. The presiding officer of a Court-martial has no right to definitely decide *per se* that a proposition submitted by a member would involve, if adopted, a violation of law or regulations, and hence that it shall not be submitted to the vote of the court. He may, like any other member, state his views and protest against any contemplated action, but the court must decide."

"As the organ of the court he is to keep order and conduct its business." He therefore submits to the court all propositions of its members and announces the decisions of the court upon them before they are to be held to have been adopted. In the case of an adjournment, for instance, no member should vacate his seat until the president announces that the adjournment has been directed by the court. In general, it is to be remembered that when engaged in the administration of justice—the great interest of man on earth—members of Courts-martial while necessarily maintaining their official self-respect, should rigorously exclude from their minds all personal jealousies or resentments that might affect their mental equilibrium, and so interfere with the impartial discharge of a most solemn duty."

"This is enjoined by their oath, and the 87th of the Articles of War requires that all members of a Court-martial shall behave with decency and calmness." (G. O. M. O. 55, Dept. Missouri, Sept. 16.)

In the case of Private W. E. Carter, Troop B, 10th Cav., recently tried at Fort Davis, Texas, for violation of the 17th, 20th, 33rd and 34th Articles of War, General Stanley says: "The record does not show the hours during which the court was in session. A Court-martial is bound to take cognizance of Army regulations, made pursuant to the authority conferred by Congress—Gratuit v. U. S., 4 Howard 107,—and general orders from the War Department, when duly promulgated, but orders from other authority must be regularly proved—U. S. v. Wittenberger, 19 Wallace 626. The price of articles of clothing, camp and garrison equipage is duly promulgated by general orders from the War Department. The price of ordnance and ordnance stores, when it is in dispute, should be regularly proved. The practice of having witnesses fully identify themselves under oath, in answer to the first question asked, was not followed—G. O. 11, Dept. Tex., 1880. Two witnesses, including his commanding officer, testify to specific disrespectful acts and words, directed to his commanding officer. The disrespect, indicated in the Article of War, may be in acts or words. Although the fact was not brought out directly in evidence that Captain Smith was Private Carter's commanding officer, still that fact is fairly deducible from the evidence—see Winthrop's Digest, page 8, par. 1; Ives's Mil. Law, pages 239-240. The court found the prisoner guilty of selling, and losing through neglect, articles of the total value of \$7.75, but imposed a stoppage of only \$3.75. The sentence does not conform to the form mentioned in Circular No. 2, A. G. O., March 24, 1884. The proceedings are disapproved (Orders have been already issued for the restoration to duty of Private Carter)."—G. O. M. O. 37, Dept. Texas Sept. 20.

THE NAVY.

NAVAL VESSELS IN COMMISSION.

WHEN AND WHERE LAST HEARD FROM.

North Atlantic Station—Acting Rear Adm. J. E. Jouett.

ALLIANCE, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. Lewis Clark. At New York.

GALENA, 3d rate, 8 guns, Comdr. Oliver A. Batcheller. Sailed from Portsmouth, N. H., Oct. 6, for Boston, where she arrived Oct. 6.

SWATARA, 3d rate, 8 guns, Commander Gilbert C. Willis. At New York Navy-yard.

TENNESSEE, 1st rate, 23 guns (f. s. a. s.), Lieut. Comdr. W. W. Mead, Executive Officer. Placed in dock at New York, Oct. 10.

VANDALLA, Portsmouth, N. H. Put out of commission Oct. 14.

YANTIC, 3d rate, 4 guns, Commander Frank Wildes. At New York.

South Atlantic Station—Rear Adm. Thomas S. Phelps. Oct. 15, detached from command S. A. S., and ordered to proceed home and wait orders.

BROOKLYN, 2d rate, 14 guns, (f. s. a. s.) Arrived at New York, Oct. 8, 1884—37 days from Rio de Janeiro. Ordered out of commission.

NIPISO, 3d rate, 6 guns, William S. Dana ordered to command per steamer Oct. 31. Address mail, to care of U. S. Consul, Montevideo, Uruguay. At Rio de Janeiro Sept. 1.

European Station—Rear Admiral Earl English.

Mail should be addressed to care R. F. Stevens, 4 Trafalgar Square, London, England, unless otherwise noted.

LANCASTER, 2d rate, 10 guns, (f. s. e. s.) Capt. Edward E. Potter. At Southampton, England, Oct. 5.

QUINNEBAUG, 3d rate, 8 guns, Comdr. Nicoll Ludlow. Left Hamburg, Oct. 5, for a cruise, as reported by cable.

Rear Admiral English has sent to the Navy Department from Southampton, under date of September 29, a copy of the report of Commander Ludlow of the grounding of the *Quinnebaug*, near Flamborough Head, England, on the night of the 11th of September. The *Quinnebaug* left Leith, Scotland, on the 11th, at 2 p. m., and was running slowly down the coast, through a dense fog. At the time she grounded, she was seeking an anchorage and had reversed her engines on account of the shallowness of the water. She remained aground only about twenty minutes, and afterwards anchored, sailing the next morning for Antwerp. She sustained no damage whatever. She was at Antwerp September 15.

KRAKSHAUG, 3d rate, 7 guns, Comdr. Wm. R. Bridgman. At Lisbon about Sept. 20. Was at last accounts on West Coast of Spain, preparing to go along the Western Coast of Africa.

Pacific Station—Acting Rear Admiral J. H. Upshur.

HARTFORD, 2d rate, 16 guns (f. s. p. s.), Captain George H. Perkins, commanding. Mail address, care of U. S. Consul, Panama, U. S. of C. Left Payta Sept. 23 for Callao. *Wachusett* to follow in a few days, touching at intermediate ports.

IRAGOONIS, 3d rate, 7 guns, Comdr. Yates Stirling. Mail address, care of U. S. Consul, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, via San Francisco, until Nov. 14. After that date, address as before, Panama, U. S. of C.

Left Callao, July 22, on a cruise as far as Australia. Will touch at the Marquesas, Society, Navigators and Fiji Islands. From Melbourne she will go to Auckland, N. Z., and thence to the coast of Chili, visiting Valdivia and Loto, also Talcahuana, and arriving at Valparaiso about Feb. 14.

LACKAWANNA, 3d rate, 9 guns, Capt. Augustus P. Cooke. Address, Mail, to care American Consul, Panama, U. S. of C. At Panama, Peru, Oct. 4, from Payta, Peru. She will there receive a draft of men sent out in the mail steamer of the 1st inst., and the men of her old crew whose times have expired, will return by steamer to New York (probably arrived on the 13th inst.) Chief Engr. John W. Moore, of the *Hartford*, who was tried by Court-martial, returned to Panama in the *Lackawanna*—also Asst. Engr. Isbester, who is in charge of Dr. Lovering. Mr. Isbester has a disorganized mind, and will be sent to the hospital for treatment. All these officers arrived at New York on the 13th inst. The *Lackawanna* has gone back to Callao.

MORONGUELA, 3d rate, 9 guns, Captain Henry L. At Callao, Peru, Sept. 25.

ONWARD, 4th rate, 3 guns, Lieut. Commander Francis W. Dickinson. Address care of U. S. Consul, Panama, U. S. of C. At Callao, Peru. Has been surveyed, appraised, and recommended to be sold. Sale has been ordered.

PINTA, 4th rate, screw, 3 guns, Lieut. Comdr. Henry E. Nichols. Address, care of Navy Pay Agent, San Francisco, Cal. At Sitka, Alaska.

SHEMADOAN, 2d rate, 9 guns, Captain Chas. S. Norton. Mail address care American Consul, Panama, U. S. of C. At Payta Sept. 23, but under orders to Guayaquil—to reach the latter place about Oct. 1.

WACHUSETT, 3d rate, 7 guns, Comdr. Alfred T. Mahan. Address to U. S. Consul, Panama, U. S. of C. At Payta, Peru. Was to have sailed shortly after September 23 for Callao, and to touch at intermediate ports.

Asiatic Station—Acting Rear-Admiral John L. Davis. Vessels with (t), address, Mail, to care U. S. Consul, Yokohama, Japan.

ALEXANDER, 3d rate, 4 guns, Comdr. Chas. J. Barclay. At Canton, China, Sept. 1.

ENTERPRISE, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. Albert S. Barker. At Foo Choo, China, Aug. 29.

ESSEX, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. Alex. H. McCormick. Will return home, via Suez Canal, reaching New York about middle of November next. At Mozambique, Oct. 8.

JUNIATA, 3d rate, 8 guns, Comdr. Purnell F. Harrington. At Shanghai Aug. 18. Would be ordered to Ningpo.

MONOGACY, 3d rate, 6 guns, Commander Francis J. Higginson. At Foo Choo, China, Aug. 13.

OSSEIER, 3d rate, 9 guns, Comdr. John F. McGlenssey. Arrived at Hong Kong Sept. 1. Commander McGlenssey, in a despatch received by mail, reporting his arrival at Singapore, gives an account of the visit of the *Ossipee* to Colombo, and of the passage of the vessel through the Straits of Malacca. But one severe squall was encountered in the Straits. The lower part is well lighted, but in passing North and South Sands great caution has to be exercised on account of the large extent of shoal water. He thinks it would add

greatly to the safety of navigation if a better light were put in place on the North Sands, and a first class one established on South Sands. At Colombo the officers of the *Ossipee* were handsomely entertained by prominent officials and citizens, and received great attention. Their visit was most agreeable, and all expressed themselves highly gratified with the courtesies of which they were the recipients.

PALOS, 4th rate, 6 howitzers, Lieut.-Commander Geo. D. B. Gilden. Lieut. Comdr. T. Nelson has been ordered to command this vessel per steamer during November. At Canton, China, Aug. 18. On being relieved by the *Alert*, would visit Swatow, Ningpo, Chefoo and Tientsin.

TRENTON, 2d rate, 10 guns (f. s. a. s.), Capt. Robert L. Phythian. At Foo Chow Aug. 29.

Apprentice Training Squadron—Commodore Philip C. Johnson.

(Commodore Johnson has been ordered to command the Portsmouth (N. H.) Navy-yard, Oct. 15.

JAMESTOWN, 3d rate, sails, 13 guns, Commander Charles V. Gridley. At Newport, R. I., Oct. 11.

MINNESOTA, 1st rate, 24 guns, Capt. Jas. H. Gillis. Gunner ship. Foot of West Twenty-seventh Street, New York.

NEW HAMPSHIRE, 1st rate, 16 guns, sails, flagship of training squadron, Captain Arthur R. Yator. Coaster's Island Harbor, Newport, R. I.

PORTSMOUTH, 3d rate, sails, 13 guns, Comdr. Silas W. Terry. At Newport, R. I., Oct. 10.

At general muster on Wednesday, Oct. 8, on board the training ships *Portsmouth* and *Jamestown* the following letter from the Secretary of the Navy was read to the crews of these vessels:

The *Portsmouth*, under the command of Commander Wm. C. Wise, and the *Jamestown*, commanded by Commander Charles V. Gridley, participated in the reception at Portsmouth, N. H., of the ships of the Arctic Relief Expedition and Lieut. Greely's party. The Navy Department extends to the commanding officers of these ships, to the officers under their command, their crews, and especially the apprentices, its thanks for their valuable work on the memorable occasion. The apprentices appeared, marched and behaved well, and did credit to the training system of the United States Navy. It is to be hoped that each of them will persevere in his efforts to become a skilled and useful sailor, capable of doing his duty faithfully and well under all circumstances.

SARATOGA, 3d rate, 13 guns, Comdr. Wm. H. Whiting. Training ship. At Newport, R. I., Oct. 11.

On Special Service.

ALBERT, Arctic Relief vessel, Commander Geo. W. Coffin. At New York.

BEAR, Arctic Relief Vessel, Lieut. W. H. Emory, Commanding. At New York.

DESPATCH, 4th rate, Lieut. William H. Reeder in command. Left New York at daylight, Oct. 12, for Washington, with the President on board. Arrived at Fortress Moore, Oct. 13, a. m. Left at night for Washington, arriving there Oct. 14, at one o'clock.

MICHIGAN, 4th rate, 8 guns, Comdr. John J. Read. Arrived at Erie, Sept. 25. Was remain until certain fittings to her new battery were completed.

NINA, tug, 4th rate, 4 guns, Lieut. Commander R. D. Hitchcock, commanding. At Edgartown, Mass. Address, Wood's Hall, Mass.

PASSAIC, 4th rate, 3 guns, Commander Edwin T. Woodward. At Annapolis, Md. Put out of commission, Oct. 15.

POWHATAN, 2d rate, 14 guns, Captain Lester A. Bearselee. Sailed from Norfolk, Va., Oct. 9, for Portsmouth, N. H. Arrived at Portsmouth, N. H., Oct. 13.

RANGER, 3d rate, 4 guns, Comdr. Chas. E. Clark. Address, care of Navy Pay Office, San Francisco, Cal. At Navy-yard, Mare Island, Cal., Oct. 15. Will be ready to sail from San Francisco Oct. 25.

ST. MARY'S, sails, 8 guns, Commander Edwin M. Shepard. N. Y. School ship. At New York, foot of 23d Street and East River.

Receiving Ships, Iron-Clads, Etc.

FRANKLIN, 1st rate, 26 guns, Captain Henry Wilson. Receiving ship. At Norfolk, Va.

INDEPENDENCE, 3d rate, sails, 6 guns, Commander Frederick Rodgers. Receiving ship. At Mare Island, Cal.

SPEEDWELL, 4th rate, Lieut. C. M. McCarteney. At Norfolk, Va.

ST. LOUIS, 3d rate, sails, Capt. Wm. E. Fitzhugh. Receiving ship, League Island, Pa.

WABASH, 1st rate, 26 guns, Capt. Francis M. Bunce. Receiving ship, Boston, Mass.

VERMONT, 2d rate, 7 guns, Captain Robert Boyd. Receiving ship. At New York.

WYANDOTTET, 4th rate, 3 guns, Commander Richard P. Leary. Receiving ship at the Navy-yard, Washington, D. C.

DOLPHIN, Steel Despatch boat, 1 gun, Commander George Dewey. Arrived at New York, Oct. 10, from Philadelphia, on her trial trip.

MAYFLOWER. Ordered from Norfolk to Annapolis, to perform some service for Bureau of Ordnance.

The iron-clads *Ajar*, *Catekill*, *Lehigh*, *Mahopac*, *Manhattan* are laid up at City Point, Va., in command of Comdr. D. W. Mullan.

VARIOUS NAVAL ITEMS.

The target being built by Pusey and Jones Co. for testing Passed Asst. Engineer Clark's system of defective armor will be completed within a month, when it will be sent to Annapolis for test. Tests have been made of the samples of the steel made by Whitworth for the purpose, and Mr. Clark is entirely satisfied with it.

COMMANDER WISE transferred the command of the *Portsmouth* to Commander S. W. Terry at Newport on Oct. 11.

ORDERS have been given to hurry up the repairs on the vessels of the North Atlantic Station now at the New York yard, so that they can get away on their winter cruise in the Gulf. Before final departure from the United States they will probably rendezvous at Hampton Roads.

MR. CHARLES M. JONES of New York has been ordered to report to the Chief of the Bureau of Steam Engineering as assistant draughtsman in that bureau.

COMMANDER TERRY having been detached from the League Island yard, the commandant ordered Commander Edward Hooker, in addition to his present duties, to take charge of the Departments of Ordnance, Navigation, and Equipment and Recruiting.

REAR-ADMIRAL JONETT and Lieut. B. F. Tilley, of his staff, arrived in Washington on Oct. 10, on a brief visit from the *Tennessee*, at New York.

CHIEF ENGINEER John W. Moore, of the *Hartford*, has been tried by Court-martial and sentenced to six months' suspension from duty on waiting orders pay. He took passage in the *Lancaster* from Payta for Panama, and has returned to New York.

PORTER D. HASKELL, Mich., has been appointed a clerk in the Naval War Records' Office, Navy Department.

THE annual election of officers of the Naval Institute were held at the Naval Academy on Saturday last. Rear-Admiral T. A. Jenkins was re-elected president, and all the old officers were continued except in the case of Lieut. Charles Belknap, who was made secretary and treasurer, vice Lieut.-Comdr. Charles Thomas. Lieut. J. H. Bull was chosen a member of the board of control. Capt. F. M. Ramsay was chosen vice-president of the Institute.

THE tenth annual examination of the Nautical School of the Port of New York took place on Thursday of this week on the school ship *St. Mary's*, at anchor in the East River, opposite 23d street.

G. O. 324, Navy Department, Oct. 3, calls attention to paragraphs 1, 4, 18, and 33, chapter 17, pages 127 to 131, Navy Regulations, 1876, relative to official correspondence.

THE *New York Post* says: A member of the United States Navy Advisory Board was asked why it was that this country had not done as well as Brazil. He replied: "We addressed a circular to all the great yards, and got no response. Probably these builders did not care to expose their secrets of construction; at any rate, they paid no attention to our circular, and we found it necessary to become a constructing instead of a consulting board, and get up our own plans. As to the masts and sails, I myself would not put masts into a warship, but the older officers of the Navy object to the *Chicago* on the ground that she has not enough sail power. 'How could she work off a lee shore?' one of them asked, as if any amount of canvas could take a twin-screw ship to windward in a gale after her engines broke down. Why, instead of building experimental vessels, do you not go to Samdus, and order say a dozen or so of *Riachuelos*? If you did that you would have a compact squadron of vessels of equal qualities from the study of which we could work out improvements. What? The United States go abroad to buy ships! There is not a Congressman extant who would have the pluck to vote for such a measure unless he was about to forsake politics entirely."

OF the vessels of the British squadron on the southeast coast of America, the *Amethyst* was recently aground on a lee shore off Tijuca Point, Para River, and the *Algerine* and *Wrangler* in only just enough water to float them, no steam, and screws up. Fortunately, the *Amethyst* had cast off the *Wrangler* a few hours previously.

THE *Evening Post* says: "Hammers were ringing busily this morning on the hulls of the *Jana* and *Colossus*, which, after for years cumbering the ship houses in the Brooklyn yard, have been ordered to be broken up. This consummation to her useless existence is very proper in the case of the *Colossus*, whose white oak frame is sadly rotten. But the *Jana* is a very large, sound, well modelled live oak ship, and it almost seems a pity that some better use than firewood should not be made of her. It was rather amusing this morning to hear the comments of the workmen on the persistent soundness of the *Jana's* frame. Said the reporter to a stout Irishman, who, with hammer and wedge, was extracting the long bolts from one of her floor timbers, 'Seems very sound?' 'Sound!' As the hammer bounded from the wedge, and the tough fibre yielded not a particle, 'Sound! ownly take the sledge and thry; it's like drawin' the teeth from a hen to get ara spoke out of them timbers.'"

THE Brooklyn Aldermen, Oct. 13, voted to enter into an agreement with the naval authorities for the use of the unoccupied part of the Navy-yard adjoining Washington ave. for a public market.

THE 6-inch gun of the *Dolphin* was spoken of last week as the 6th, the printer misinterpreting the MS. The armament of the *Dolphin* consists of one 6 inch breech loader and four Hotchkiss revolving guns, two forward and two aft, mounted in the extremities of each bridge in fixed armor towers. The vessel's dimensions are 240 feet in length, 32 feet beam, and 1,500 tons displacement. The vessel made an average of 15 knots an hour on her trial trip to New York, and behaved in a satisfactory manner in all respects. She arrived in port Oct. 11 and anchored off Bedloe's Island, where she was boarded by Lieut. Dayton, who will be her executive officer, and Lieut. McLean, who will be navigating officer. The *Dolphin* then proceeded to the foot of East 9th street, and will remain there until she is turned over to the Government.

THE Board finished the inspection of the *Brooklyn* at the Navy Yard, New York, on Oct. 16.

THE Navy Department is printing schedules of condemned articles to be sold, and will shortly issue a public notice of auction sales at the different navy yards.

CHIEF CONST. Wilson has gone to Newport on public business, and Commodore Schley to New York on similar duty.

A SLIGHT excitement was occasioned in the Department of State on October 16 by the oil-waste in the elevator taking fire. It was promptly extinguished without calling on the fire department, and no damage done.

THE claims of the following naval officers for mileage upon the Graham decision have been favorably passed upon by the Second Comptroller this week: Lieutenant Robt. M. G. Brown, \$462.67; Medical Inspector Thomas W. Leach, \$351.01; Captain Wm. P. McCann, \$441.10; Chief Engineer C. Andrade, \$859.95; Sailmaker Geo. C. Boerum, \$1,003.15; Boatswain Alex. Mack, \$468.60; P. A. Paymaster Stephen Rand, \$576.85; P. A. Engr. Frank M. Ashton, \$217.43; Chief Engr. A. W. Morley, \$390.82; Asst. Engr. J. Burchard, \$290.44; Lt.-Comdr. C. M. Anthony, \$270.50; Chief Engr. H. W. Fitch, \$185.30; Gunner Stephen Young, \$485.67; P. A. Engr. J. J. Bassett, \$757.01; P. A. Surgeon R. C. Persons, \$274.40; P. A. Engr. Ralph Aston, \$327.38; Comdr. C. M. Chester, \$213.44; Surg. J. S. Knight, \$461.42; Wsch. O. Sharrer, \$660.73; P. A. Engr. J. P. Mickley, \$283.80. In the settlement of the mileage claims under the Graham decision the invariable rule of the accounting officers is to compute the distance by the shortest usually travelled routes, unless the order for the travel or some other unavoidable circumstance compelled the officer to travel by a longer route. We are asked to repeat this statement in order to correct some misapprehensions that seem to have gotten abroad regarding the manner in which these claims are computed.

THE commander for the *Marion*, now fitting out at Portsmouth yard for the China Squadron, has not been selected yet. The friends of Commander John R. Bartlett do not believe that he will be ordered to command her as has been reported.

It is currently reported and believed that Commodore J. C. P. De Kraft will be ordered to command the New York Navy yard vice Fillebrown deceased.

THE "Alabama Claims" cases of the great Western and Columbia Insurance Companies brought up from the Court

of Claims were argued in the Supreme Court on Tuesday and Wednesday. These were suits brought by the insurance companies to recover in one case \$546,965, and in the other \$876,845 alleged to be due them out of the Geneva award on account of losses arising from the capture and destruction by confederate cruisers of certain vessels on which the petitioners had issued policies of insurance.

The record of the Court-martial in the case of Chief Engineer John W. Moore, who was tried on the Pacific Station on the charge of neglect of duty, growing out of the accident to the *Hartford*, was received at the Navy Department on Thursday. The sentence of the court is suspension from duty for six months. The findings are approved by Acting Rear Admiral J. H. Upshur, commanding. Chief Engineer Moore is now on his way home.

The new college at Coasters' Island, officially known as the Naval War School, has been dubbed by naval officers at the Navy Department the "Trinity College," a name they have derived from the manner in which the institution was christened.

Lieuts. Fremont and Babcock have been attached to the *Hartford*. Lieut.-Comdr. F. Aug. Miller has reported on the *Lackawanna* as Executive.

NAVY GAZETTE.

ORDERED.

Oct. 11.—Ensign Wiley R. M. Field, to temporary duty in the branch Hydrographic Office at Baltimore, Md.

Passed Assistant Surgeon John M. Edgar, to temporary duty on board the U. S. receiving ship *Franklin*.

Oct. 13.—Lieutenant Commanders Charles O'Neill and Caspar F. Goodrich and Assistant Engineer George D. Strickland, to examination for promotion.

Passed Assistant Paymaster Charles W. Littlefield, to the training ship *Saratoga* on Oct. 31.

Passed Assistant Engineer Wm. W. Heaton, to duty on the Board of Inspection of Foreign Ships.

Oct. 14.—Commander Wm. S. Dana, to command the *Nipisic*, South Atlantic Station, per steamer on Oct. 31.

Lieutenant Franklin Hanford, to duty in instruction in Ordnance at the Navy-yard, New York, Nov. 1.

Ensign Edson W. Sutphen, to special duty in the Office of the Library and War Records, Navy Department.

Oct. 15.—Assistant Engineer Charles E. Rommel, to duty in the Bureau Steam Engineering, Washington.

Ensign Wm. L. Varnum, to appear before the Retiring Board.

Surgeon George H. Cooke, to *Lackawanna*, per Pacific mail steamer Oct. 30.

DETACHED.

Oct. 11.—Passed Assistant Engineer Wm. H. Nauman, from the *Alert*, and ordered to duty in the Bureau of Steam Engineering on Oct. 20.

Oct. 13.—Surgeon Joseph Hugg has reported his return home, having been detached from the *Quinnebang* on Sept. 18, and has been placed on waiting orders.

Passed Assistant Paymaster L. G. Buge, from the training ship *Saratoga* on Oct. 31, ordered to settle accounts and wait orders.

Oct. 14.—Commander Henry B. Seely, from the command of the *Nipisic* on the reporting of his relief, and ordered to return home and report arrival.

Commander E. T. Woodward, from the command of the *Passaic*, and placed on waiting orders.

Lieutenants John E. Roller and C. H. Lyeth, Ensigns Wm. S. Hogg and E. A. Anderson, Assistant Surgeon Wm. Martin, Passed Assistant Engineers Wm. A. Mintzer and L. W. Wooster and Assistant Engineer Wm. B. Boggs, from the *Passaic*, and placed on waiting orders.

Chief Engineer George W. Sennner, from the *Alliance*, and placed on sick leave.

Chief Engineer B. F. Wood, from duty at the Morgan Iron Works, N. Y., and ordered to the *Alliance*.

Mate Walter N. Smith, from the *Nina* and the *Torpedo Station* on Oct. 31, and placed on waiting orders.

Oct. 15.—Rear Admiral Thomas S. Phelps, from the command of the South Atlantic Station, and ordered to proceed home and wait orders.

Captain A. W. Weaver, from the command of the *Brooklyn*, and placed on waiting orders.

Lieutenant Commander George E. Wingate, Lieutenants Eugene W. Watson, Jacob J. Huicker, Henry O. Handy, Thomas S. Phelps, Wm. H. Beecher and George A. Calhoun, Ensigns Harry McL. P. Huse, Thomas Snowden, Charles S. Ripley, John A. Bell, James B. Caboon, John Hood and Franklin Swift, Medical Inspector Chas. H. Burbank, Passed Assistant Surgeon H. M. Martin, Chaplain Alfred L. Royce, Chief Engineer Wm. W. Dungan, Passed Assistant Engineer B. C. Gowing, Assistant Engineer Samuel H. Leonard, Boat-swain Hallowell Dickinson, Carpenter John S. Waltmeyer and Sailmaker John T. Bailey, from the *Brooklyn*, and ordered to proceed home and wait orders.

Paymaster W. Goldsborough, from the *Brooklyn*, ordered to settle accounts and then wait orders.

Oct. 16.—Ensign Chas. H. Harlow, from special duty (in connection with the Southern Exposition, under Lieut. Buckingham), and ordered to report to Prof. S. F. Baird, Secretary of the Smithsonian Institute, for such duty as he may assign him.

First Lieutenant S. L. Jackson, U. S. M. C., from the *Brooklyn* when guard is transferred, and ordered to Boston to report for duty at the barracks there.

Lieutenant John Hubbard, from the *Despatch*, and to report to the Chief of the Bureau of Navigation for such duty as he may assign.

Ensign Joseph L. Jayne, from the Navy-yard, Washington, and ordered to the *Galena* at Boston.

Surgeon John H. Clark, from *Lackawanna*, and ordered to *Hartford* and as fleet Surgeon of South Pacific Station.

Passed Assistant Surgeon E. H. Marsteller, from the *Monongahela*, and ordered to *Lackawanna*.

Passed Assistant Surgeon P. A. Lovering, from the *Lackawanna*, and placed on waiting orders.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

To Mate S. T. C. Smith, one month, from Oct. 16.

To Lieutenant Downs L. Wilson, one month, from October 20.

RESIGNED.

Lieutenant Commander Albert G. Caldwell, to take effect on Oct. 13, 1885, and granted leave of absence until that date.

COMMISSIONED.

Henry McL. P. Huse, to be an Ensign from June 2, 1882.

ORDERS MODIFIED.

The orders of Surgeon George R. Brush so far modified that on being detached from the *Vandalia* he will report for temporary duty at the Naval Laboratory, New York.

REVOKED.

The orders of Lieutenant John B. Collins, of Oct. 9, de-

taching him from the *Tennessee*, and to remain on duty on board that vessel.

MARINE CORPS.

First Lieutenant Richard Wallach detached from the Barracks at Norfolk, and to report on Nov. 1 for the command of the Marine Guard on U. S. S. Portsmouth.

First Lieutenant Geo. F. Elliott detached from the Barracks at Boston on Oct. 20, and to report on Nov. 1 for duty at the Barracks, Norfolk.

First Lieutenant C. P. Porter, when relieved of the command of the guard on the Portsmouth by Lieutenant Wallach, to report in person to the Colonel Commandant at Headquarters for orders.

Second Lieutenant Samuel L. Jackson has been detached from the Brooklyn and ordered to duty at Marine Barracks Boston.

CASUALTIES.

Deaths.—In the Navy of the United States, reported to the Surgeon-General, for the week ending Oct. 15, 1884:

Ambrose Ransom Wright Cohen, naval cadet, Oct. 7, Naval Academy, Annapolis.

George Bell, seaman, Sept. 20, U. S. S. *Lackawanna*.

NAVAL COLLEGE.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, Washington, Oct. 6, 1884.

General Order, No. 325.

A College is hereby established for an advanced course of professional study for naval officers to be known as the Naval War College. It will be under the general supervision of the Bureau of Navigation. The principal building on Coasters' Harbor Island, Newport, R. I., will be assigned to its use, and is hereby transferred, with the surrounding structures and the grounds immediately adjacent to the custody and control of the Bureau of Navigation for that purpose.

The College will be under the immediate charge of an officer of the Navy, not below the grade of Commander, to be known as the President of the Naval War College. He will be assisted in the performance of his duties by a faculty. A course of instruction, embracing the higher branches of professional study, will be arranged by a board, consisting of all the members of the faculty and including the president who will be the presiding officer of the board. The board will have regular meetings, at least once a month, and at such other times as the president may direct for the transaction of business. The proceedings of the board will be recorded in a journal.

The course of instruction will be open to all officers above the grade of Naval Cadet.

Commodore S. B. Luce has been assigned to duty as President of the College.

WM. E. CHANDLER, Secretary.

(From the Boston Journal.)

REFORM IN THE NAVY.

The action of Secretary Chandler in designating an Advisory Board to aid him in selecting for detail officers of the Navy, instead of leaving the matter to the discretion of the Chief of the Bureau of Navigation, has been the absorbing topic of discussion at the Navy Department since the order was issued. It is generally regarded as the first step toward abolishing the absurd system of bureaus, with their conflicting orders, which has in the past been the bane of the Navy. Scarcely an officer, who is desirous of fair play, has a word to say against Secretary Chandler for his latest action. It is generally believed that the new regime will result in the abolition of favoritism in promotion and detail for duty which has on some occasions been charged against those in control. That the bureau system is a drawback to efficient naval service there can be no doubt, as the line of demarcation between the duties of the bureau chiefs is so indistinct as to bring about conflicting orders. An instance of this kind was cited by an officer who has just returned from a long cruise, which is an excellent argument in favor of an advisory board, who shall control all orders, instead of one man power. The Bureau of Steam Engineering controls the amount of coal which shall be used. The chief of this bureau says to the commander of a vessel about to sail: "You shall take on board 500 tons for this cruise." Then following the orders from the Bureau of Equipment and Recruiting. The chief of this bureau says to the same commander: "You shall not burn more than 400 tons of coal on this voyage." Here are two orders from two bureaus. Now comes the third. The chief of the Bureau of Navigation orders the commander to sail for Port Blank and to make the trip in three weeks. The amount of coal required to obey this last order within the specified time is 600 tons, yet the commander is allowed to take with him 500 and to burn only 400 tons. It will readily be seen that in this instance the orders conflict to such an extent as to destroy the power of the commander, and this is only one of many cases in which the eight bureaus of the navy fail to harmonize.

In this connection we may say that we recently received a private letter from a naval friend, in which he says: "It was with a certain amount of surprise that I found in your paper this morning (the *JOURNAL* of Oct. 4th), without comment on your part, an extract from the *Evening Post* in regard to the late change in the method of detailing officers, which is so incorrect that I can only account for its appearance in such a way by surmising that you neglected to revise this portion of your copy."

We supposed it was understood that the opinions of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL do not find expression through the transfer to its columns, without comment, of articles from other papers. These we give for the information of our readers who are interested in learning what is said of them in the daily papers—whether it be true or false, complimentary or the reverse—and to enable them to correct false impressions when they so desire. In reference to the particular statement which appeared in the *Post*, our correspondent says: "You have only to examine and compare the stations of officers in the last Navy List with those of three years ago to convince yourself that the *Post* is incorrect." This statement is in itself sufficient explanation of our reasons for not replying to the *Post*. Such a comparison as is here proposed occupies time, and was hardly needed for the information of naval officers who are familiar with the facts.—EDITOR JOURNAL.

LAUNCH OF THE ATLANTA.

In the hurry of mailing to the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL last week an account of the launching of the *Atlanta*, our correspondent failed to enclose one sheet of his notes, which, although of no very great consequence, contained some matter of interest, viz.: "On the arrival of the train near Chester, the two parlor cars were switched off and ran down in front of Mr. Roach's shipyard, which was a great convenience to the party, who were immediately invited to the upper rooms of the office, where a delightful lunch awaited them. A half an hour or more was spent in partaking of the refreshments, and the health of the great American ship-builder, as well as Miss Jessie Lincoln, who was to be the godmother of the new steel cruiser, was appropriately drunk. Mr. Roach, Jr., was indefatigable in his attentions to the party, and placed a tug at their disposal to visit the despatch steamer *Dolphin*, which laid in the stream. Although little Jessie Lincoln did not break the bottle over the bow of the *Atlanta*, she went through all the motions on the deck and observed all the forms of a christening. The bottle, beautifully dressed in various colored ribbons, was carried home as a memento of the occasion. The *Boston*, the sister ship of the *Atlanta*, will be ready to launch in about a month, and the *Chicago* in two or three months later. The *Atlanta* can be completed in about six weeks."

JAMESTOWN VETERAN ASSOCIATION.

The third annual reunion and banquet of the United States Sloop of War Jamestown Veteran Association was held Monday evening, Oct. 13, at Shuster's Café, No. 60 North 8th street, Philadelphia, to celebrate the twenty-second anniversary of the Jamestown's departure for the China and Japan station. Speeches, singing and reminiscences of the cruise were indulged in heartily. The Jamestown's crew intend to urge the attention of Congress to their claim to an award out of the Japanese indemnity fund, the interest of which now amounts to over \$900,000, the principal (\$785,000) having been returned to Japan. A song entitled "The Jamestown's Cruise"—air, "Twenty Years Ago"—composed by D. Brainard Williamson, Esq., was sung by all present. The occasion was one long to be remembered. Two of the verses are as follows:

O, we remember well that week,
How all were bounced about,
And lost our "grab" at every lurch,
That spilt the bean soup out;
The decks were spinning round and round,
And some were sick below
And wished for home again—just two—
And twenty years ago!

And, comrades, here to-night replend,
That naught shall ever wreck,
The friendships in our bosoms born,
Upon the Jamestown's deck:
Then three times three! with hearty will
For our old ship, you know,
And that bright day we met—just two
And twenty years ago!

THE BROOKLYN HOME AGAIN.

From the *Brooklyn Eagle* "Home Again" edition, dated at New York, Oct. 8, we gather some particulars of the final cruise of the Brooklyn, which brought her to New York, Oct. 8.

Preparations for the final departure from Montevideo were completed late Saturday evening, July 12, and the next day afforded the last opportunity to bid adieu to our friends in this city, some of whom were especially anxious for us to remain at least one day more to participate in the festivities of the French national holiday—the anniversary of the storming of the Bastille. At 11 50 A. M. Monday, July 14, we got under way and began the first part of our voyage homeward bound, under the most promising circumstances, with every detail of the ship's equipment and machinery in thorough order.

We steamed direct for Rio de Janeiro, and experienced fine weather with smooth sea and very light head winds, arriving July 20. The trip from Montevideo thus occupied 6 days and 23 hours, while the distance actually sailed was 1,084.5 miles. Found the *Nipisic* and a number of men of war at anchor in the harbor, and immediately after the health officer's visit we received our mail, in which the Admiral received instructions to proceed home in the Brooklyn as soon as the U. S. Naval Store House was disposed of. The news was immediately communicated to the officers, and Dennis Twigg passed word—after the shrill pipe to attention—"D'ye hear there! the ship is under orders for home!" No words can express the thrill of joy that ran through the ship's company. Three rousing cheers spontaneously burst forth and gave vent to our feelings. Expected to be able to accomplish the sale of stores in a very short time, but after the inventory was taken the law required the sale to be advertised for four weeks, which detained the vessel.

The auction sale of the stores took place on Aug. 21, and realized 30,000 millreis or about \$12,000, a sum considerably over the amount expected, and preparations were made for departure for New York on the following Monday, Sept. 1. The *Nipisic* was thus left alone on the station. Naval Cadets Webster and Alexander were transferred back again to the *Nipisic*, with twelve marines, who had been with the ship all the cruise. At 9 45 A. M. Monday, Sept. 1, the Boat-swain and his mates called all hands "Up anchor for home," and all went to their stations with great alacrity. Got underway under steam and stood down the bay. As the Brooklyn passed the *Nipisic* her crew manned the rigging and gave the parting cheer which we answered most vociferously. The air was filled with caps, which dropped into the sea astern accompanied by three *Jonahs* which were thrown from the fore, main and mizzen tops.

We had a deck load of 50 tons of coal, and continued under steam until Sept. 6, when we got the southeast trades. From this time on the passage was remarkably fine, and under sail until steam was got up Oct. 4, when 670 miles from Sandy Hook, and steamed direct to our anchorage here, where we arrived.

During this passage the B. actually sailed a distance of 4,913 miles, and was 37 days and 10 hours at sea. Experienced delightful weather throughout, encountered no rough seas, and the ship sailed along as smoothly as if on an inland lake. The *Eagle* says: "We have now returned home again from the foreign shores where we protected the interests of our country, and were a security for such as passed on the seas upon their lawful occasions; and we shall look back upon this most successful cruise with great satisfaction. Indeed we were very fortunate during the entire cruise, both in regard to the fine weather we have had and to the remarkably good health enjoyed by all hands for which we have so much cause to be sincerely thankful."

NAVAL ACADEMY.

The resolutions which follow have been passed by the Class of 1887.

Whereas, It has pleased Divine Providence to remove from our midst our beloved classmate, A. R. W. Cohen; therefore be it

Resolved: That we do hereby declare our sorrow for the death of one whose career at the Naval Academy justly entitles him to the remembrance of his classmates;

Resolved: That we tender to his bereaved mother our sincere condolence in her affliction, and that as a slight tribute of respect to his memory these resolutions be published in the *Augusta Chronicle*, *ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL*, and *Register*, and a copy of the same be sent to the family of our deceased classmate.

Committee, Class '87.
A. T. LONG, B. W. WELLS, H. F. BRYAN, N. J. BLACKWOOD.

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Smith, 23d Infantry; Lieut. Harry C. Carbaugh, 5th
Artillery, and Colonel Thomas G. Baylor, Ordnance
Department, have been admitted to membership in the
Army Mutual Aid Association since our last report,
making a total membership of 879. The late Lieut.
Marsteller, 24th Infantry, whose death we announced
last week, was a member. The amount of benefit was
forwarded to his widow by Lieut. Duvall on the 10th.
Ten deaths have occurred since last January, being one
less than the total number for the whole year of 1883.
Only one member has been dropped for non-payment
of dues since the last semi-annual assessment. The asso-
ciation is increasing in membership weekly.

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any delay or failure to receive the JOURNAL, so that we may give
the matter our immediate attention.

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MILITARY AND NAVAL SCHOOLING.

THE appearance of the long-awaited report of the
Board of Visitors to the Naval Academy has at least
saved the necessity of taking up the desperate sugges-
tion that the document should be advertised for. The
contrast between the startling energy of some previous
years, in which the annual report has been drawn up,
forwarded and published, almost before the members of
the Board had left Annapolis, and the present delibera-
tion, is marked. We do not discover, however, in the
current paper, any special reason for the unwonted
delay.

The tribute paid in this report to the almost perfect
arrangement and working of the academic system,
viewed from the point of instruction for a naval career,
seems to us well merited. This opinion of the institu-
tion at Annapolis is not influenced by national pride.
Indeed, amongst its warmest eulogists have been for-
eign naval officers. To say, as the Visitors do, "that
it is difficult to see how the studies proper to such an in-
stitution could be better selected, better arranged or
more compactly comprehended, within the limit of time
possible in the present course of four years," is to award
high praise. When it is added that, in the judgment of
the Board, no change is desirable in the present standard,
either of admission or graduation, little remains to be
said.

Yet not only is there imperative need of schooling,
beyond what is given by the Annapolis course, but provision
for supplying it has begun to be made. It has long
been evident that in addition to academic training there
is a place for sea schooling. In this fact there is no-
thing discreditable. West Point furnishes an excellent
education for a commission in the Army; nevertheless,
distinct and most useful spheres have been found for
Schools of Application—for the Artillery at Fort Mon-
roe and for the Cavalry and Infantry at Fort Leaven-
worth.

Undoubtedly the vessels of the North Atlantic Squad-
ron furnish a degree of sea schooling; but with the
foundation of the post graduate course or School of Ap-
plication at Newport—or the War College, as Commo-
dore Luce has christened the building on Coasters'
Harbor Island—there will be a new and wider field of
practical education open to officers.

There will then be an opportunity not only for abun-
dant target practice of all sorts, the preparation of
military expeditions, and such torpedo exercise as can
at present be furnished, but for the application of much
that has been learned at Annapolis in the rules of navi-

gation. Land officers will not only be familiarized with
landing parties of seamen for independent or co-opera-
tive work, but with turning vessels at high speed so as
to ram or to avoid the danger of being rammed—in
short, with a great variety of manoeuvre. It is a fam-
ilar experience of men in ordinary life that after they
have left school they begin to see what they needed to
study, and to wish for a renewal of the opportunities
for study. In the military and naval service, in time of
peace, advantage can now be taken of these after-
thoughts. As at Forts Monroe and Leavenworth, so at
Coasters' Harbor Island, officers who have become
aware, subsequent to their academic course, of what
they need to practically know, will be able to supply
the lack.

For this reason we do not consider the suggestion, in
the report of the Board of Visitors, of possibly adding
a year to the Annapolis course, a wise one. The ar-
rangement of the curriculum there is now described as
perfect, and instead of running the risk of taking away
its harmony and success, whatever else is wanted should
be provided at Newport.

EFFECTS OF DECEASED SOLDIERS.

THE 125th and 126th Articles of War direct that such
effects of deceased officers and soldiers as may be in camp
or quarters shall be immediately secured by the proper
commanding officer who shall transmit inventories
thereof to the War Department. Article 127 directs that
officers charged with the care of such effects shall ac-
count for and deliver the same, or the proceeds thereof,
to the legal representatives of the deceased.

Paragraph 120, Army regulations of 1881, orders that
if the effects of deceased officers be not called for at the
end of two months they shall be sold at auction and ac-
counted for as in the case of deceased soldiers, except
that swords, watches, trinkets and such articles will be
sent through the Adjutant General to the Second Au-
ditor of the Treasury for the heirs. (This paragraph is
based upon General Orders, No. 55, of 1884.) Para-
graph 229, Army Regulations, provides that should the
effects of a deceased soldier not be administered upon
within a short period after his decease they shall be dis-
posed of and the proceeds deposited with a paymaster
to the credit of the United States until claimed by the
legal representatives.

These are the only laws and regulations relating to
the effects of deceased soldiers. From them it will be
seen that all such effects, not claimed within a short
period, must be sold; the only exception being that the
swords, watches and trinkets of officers are to be sent
to the Second Auditor. But it has happened that enlisted
men, both of the regular Army and late volunteer forces
have left effects that either had no intrinsic value or
to which no legal title could have been conveyed had
they been sold as directed by the regulations. Photo-
graphs, letters, passports, diaries, locks of hair, etc.,
while worthless as objects of sale might be highly prized
ed as mementoes by the relatives of the dead soldiers.
Bank books, certificates of deposit payable to order,
due bills add promissory notes, would be valuable only
to those who could legally endorse or give a valid re-
ceipt for them. Articles of these classes, also a few sil-
ver watches of little or no value, have been forwarded
to the Adjutant General from time to time and by him
turned over to the Second Auditor.

In the Auditor's Office have been received about four
hundred lots of effects, less than one-third of which
have been subsequently reclaimed. The effects of Lieu-
tenant Kishigbury have not, by the way, been turned
over to this office, as was expected would be the case,
the administrators having come to an agreement by
which they will be transferred to the legal representa-
tives. Those effects still remaining in the Auditor's
Office are of a most heterogeneous character, such as
counterfeit coin, "wild cat" and "red day" bank bills,
Confederate shin-plasters, bone-rings, evidently carved
by the soldiers, broken penknives, old revolvers, com-
missions in foreign armies as well as commissions issued
by the President of the United States, furloughs from
foreign armies; Crimean, Turkish and other war medals
and clasps, naturalization papers, discharges, pocket
bibles, keys, diaries, wills, German police certificates,
etc., etc. The most extraordinary, in point of number,
of this long list of articles are the counterfeit coin and
bank notes. Bank notes that have never been signed
by the cashier or president, and others on banks that
are known never to have existed are among them; lead
quarters, half-dollars and dollars frequently appear.
Confederate currency, mostly of small denominations,
is filed away in large quantities. A number of bank
books and certificates of deposit also remain. These,
when belonging to the estates of deceased soldiers of
the United States Army, have been transferred to the
Soldier's Home by authority of section 4818 of the

Revised Statutes. Those belonging to deceased volunteers are of no value except to the heirs. There are also quite a number of promissory notes, which, being outlawed, are of no value to any one. A case sitting by itself, with a card on the door bearing the words "effects of Captain George Haller," contains a time-worn and old-fashioned sword and scabbard, private letters, commissions, a locket containing a lock of light-colored, almost yellow, hair, and several other trinkets.

In the absence of any law or other competent authority to dispose of these unclaimed effects, the Auditor says he can do nothing but keep them under lock and key, although the whole collection would not bring fifty dollars.

OUR NEW NAVAL VESSELS.

The members of the Naval Advisory Board returned to Washington from their trip on the new despatch boat *Dolphin* to New York on Sunday. They express themselves as highly gratified with the performance of the vessel, although she did not come up to the requirements of the contract, for the reason that owing to the breaking of the socket of the high pressure valve stem Mr. Roach was not willing to test her at full speed. The average speed made for the entire voyage was 13½ knots. During the latter part of the trip a speed of 15 knots was maintained for several hours. The maximum speed reached was 15.17 knots. This speed was made on an indicated horse power of 1,400. Considering that the engines are built to develop a horse power of 2,300, the members of the board have no hesitation in saying that with full power she will be able to develop and maintain a speed of at least seventeen knots an hour.

The contractor is not yet ready to turn the vessel over to the Government. During the trip to New York many changes to the machinery suggested themselves, which it will require some time to make. Among others, the draft arrangement in the fire-room will require altering. The fire-room will be extended one frame forward, it having been found too small and heated to allow the firemen to perform their work with the smallest degree of comfort. The draft arrangement will be changed so as to admit the air from the top instead of the bottom. Mr. Roach has requested a delay of three weeks to make the alteration necessary, which will be done at his machine shops in New York. The *Dolphin* will therefore remain at New York for that period.

Secretary Chandler's recommendations to Congress this year on the subject of new cruisers will be in the nature of an approval of the Hale bill, which passed the Senate last year, and is now hanging up in Conference Committee. An additional gunboat will probably be asked for.

A CORRESPONDENT thinks that the provision of law giving cooks and nurses on extra duty in post hospitals thirty-five cents per diem is unjust to second class hospital stewards, as giving them less monthly pay, although the duties of the second class stewards are of a far more responsible nature. It is difficult to regulate the matter of extra-duty pay to the satisfaction of all concerned, but in the particular case in point it must be remembered that cooks and nurses are liable at any moment to be returned to duty with their companies, and that second class hospital stewards are, as a rule, approved candidates for the higher position (hospital steward), with all of its advantages and emoluments, and can, therefore, afford to submit to the apparent inconsistency in giving them a lower rate of pay than their subordinates in the post hospital.

SECRETARY LINCOLN and General Sheridan this week approved the new overcoat with the "frog" fasteners submitted several months ago by the Quartermaster General. A pattern with buttonhole fastenings was also submitted, that with frogs received the preference. General Holabird is now having the specifications for the new coat prepared for publication in General Orders. It will be a double-breasted ulster of dark blue cloth, suitably lined, and having four frog buttons of black silk and loops of same material down the breast and at the throat, and will have a long loop *a' eohelle*, without tassel or plat, on left side, and a black silk frog button on right side. The back will be split up from bottom 20 to 25 inches, according to height of wearer, and will close at will, either by button or buttonholes cut in a concealed flap. It will have rolling collar and side pockets. The head piece to be of same material as coat, to button around the neck under the collar, and shall be large enough to cover head and cap. A vertical slit on left hip, large enough to admit sword, completes the description.

The War Department officials have not yet acted up-

on the Quartermaster General's recommendations regarding the substitution of white facings for full dress uniforms of infantry soldiers, instead of the blue now used. It is expected, however, that they will be approved this week. A change in the present style of forage cap is contemplated by the Quartermaster General. The style thought of is similar to the navy cap.

The Quartermaster General has completed specifications for new canvas mittens for enlisted men. They will be made of 6 oz. cotton duck, dyed brown. The style is plain, with thumb only, and having a gauntlet cuff neatly stitched on a wrist.

THE Morton longevity pay case, involving the question of credit for cadet service, was argued and submitted in the Supreme Court of the United States on Wednesday last. The decision will probably be rendered Wednesday next. Mr. S. S. Henkle, counsel for the appellee, Captain Morton, in his brief for the Supreme Court, simply reviews the ground upon which the favorable decision of the lower Court was based, and asks for the approval of the Court of last resort. We observe that Mr. Henkle states that Babbitt lost his case, claiming longevity pay for cadet service, because he brought his suit under the wrong statute, viz., Sec. 7 of the act of June 18, 1873, which permits service as enlisted men to be counted for longevity. In his case it was decided that cadets are not enlisted men in the Army; and, as Mr. Babbitt concludes, Mr. Justice Davis concedes, and he thinks demonstrates, that they are inferior officers of the Army.

On p. 216, the Court says: "Congress has exercised the power in this respect in the very language of the constitution. It has enacted that the corps of cadets 'shall be appointed by the President' (Rev. Stats 1315). In our opinion this as clearly makes each member of that corps an inferior officer as though the statute proceeded to declare him so." If the counsel for the claimant had based his claim upon the act of July 15, 1870, carried into the Revised Statutes as Sec. 1262, the Court, upon its reasoning must, Mr. Henkle thinks, have sustained his demand. In conclusion, he says: "I submit that the able opinion of Chief Justice Drake, found in the record, demonstrates that the appellee is entitled to be credited with his cadet service, and that the judgment of the Court of Claims should be affirmed."

The brief for the United States is as follows:

This case is submitted to the Court upon the face of the statutes which concern it, given below. It involves the question whether the status of a cadet at West Point is one of "service" in the Army, within the statutes which use that expression in fixing longevity pay. An opinion upon this question by Attorney General MacVeagh is appended; and this appeal is somewhat based upon the respect due to that opinion, and to views concurring therein, held by high officers in the Treasury Department whose duty it is to consider and pass upon it. Inasmuch as the term of service for which cadets so expressly and formally engage, under section 1321, has ever since the year 1812 been uniformly held by the Government, as I am told at the War Department, to begin at their entry into the Academy; and the more so with that construction before it Congress in 1838 significantly enlarged that term from five years to eight, I am embarrassed to deny absolutely that cadetship may carry with it the same meaning as regards longevity. And besides, inasmuch as the appropriation acts of 1881 and 1882, under which this claim was brought, no longer require the term of service by an officer to be service as an officer, nor even require such service together with service as an enlisted man, but allow to officers in the Army the benefit also of previous service in the Navy, and vice versa, it has seemed to me that no inquiry as to either the method by which a cadet enters the Army, or the character of the service which he afterwards performs therein, is in this connection useful. The question is therefore submitted to the judgment of the Court.

S. F. PHILLIPS, Solicitor General.

THE Quartermaster General has issued a circular directing officers of his Department to provide for all transportation *in kind* for paymasters' clerks travelling under competent authority on public duty during the present fiscal year. Also, that the Quartermaster's Department shall not provide sleeping accommodations nor any incidental conveniences beyond that procurable by a "transportation request" for transportation between the points to be travelled by paymasters' clerks.

THE San Francisco Report says: "Senator Morgan, a member of the Senatorial Committee sent out to the Pacific Coast to inquire into the facilities for building armored vessels and steel guns, has been visiting the Mare Island Navy Yard, and it is reported that he is well pleased with his inspection. There should be facilities on this coast for the manufacture of guns. We have a long and unprotected sea-coast. There are no heavy guns on this side of the Rocky Mountains and no way of getting them here, excepting by transporting them around the Horn. They could not be carried overland, as neither cars nor bridges would stand the strain. If war should break out with any power having a navy, it would be extremely hazardous to attempt to bring guns to California by the long sea route. There should be a foundry for their manufacture here. It might be expensive to fit up a place with all necessary facilities, but defence is always expensive. There is no reason why such works should not be constructed in

California. We have iron of the best quality, we have fuel and we have skilled labor. There should be two great and complete navy yards in this country, and Mare Island, from its position, should be one of them."

We may add that Seattle, on Puget Sound, would be an excellent place for the other. At a comparatively trifling expense, communication could be opened between the Sound and Lake Washington, back of Seattle, where fleets and dock yards could be easily protected against assault by water. But we are not engaged in multiplying navy-yards just now, and it is not worth while to press the argument.

In his annual report, which was handed to the Secretary of War on Monday last, the Quartermaster General suggests that the officers other than regimental quartermasters detailed in his department should each receive \$10 per month extra pay when they have rendered consecutive service for not less than thirty days, provided the total payment does not exceed \$25,000 in any one year. The average number of officers detached this year is 106 for whose payment, as proposed, but little more than one half this sum would be required. In this connection Gen. Holabird says: "To those officers who have never been called upon to assume the responsibility attached to these duties, and who may always have escaped their performance, this compensation will possibly seem an insignificant affair, but it is not in itself a small matter; because to ignore the duties thus rendered by these officers is an injustice and this Government, in fact no government, can afford to be unjust to any considerable number of its public servants whether it be in the matter of extra pay for extra work and responsibility, or in the matter of furnishing quarters for its worthy and highest non-commissioned officers, or fuel for those officers compelled to live upon distant frontiers far removed from all forest growth and cheap markets for the extra fuel demanded by the rigors of the climate."

On the subject of quarters for troops General Holabird says:

The necessity of assembling the troops in larger and more permanent posts near Indian reservations, and in proximity to the great strategic points of the country, adjacent to its splendid public reservations, harbors and ports, becomes daily more and more apparent, on considerations of economy, efficiency and wise government. The large casemated forts on the seaboard need garriisons for their preservation and defence, and the troops thus required ought to be quartered in time of peace in barracks outside of the works for the reason that casemated forts do not furnish healthful quarters. It is not humane to make men live in these structures which are unhealthy, unsuitable and injurious to the mental character of the occupants, except when in time of war great necessity enforces it. At Fort Adams, Warren and Hamilton there are required immediately, for sanitary reasons, barracks for the garriisons of these posts outside of the walls of the forts. No action has been taken by Congress upon the appropriation required to erect permanent barracks and quarters at this important post of David's Island. Under the special direction of the Secretary of War temporary provisions have been made so as to house the new recruits.

The statistical statements in Gen. Holabird's report we reserve for another week.

GENERAL Sheridan has returned to Washington and is engaged upon his annual report, in which it is expected he will give attention to the questions of retirement and promotion in regard to which he, last year, declined to make any recommendations because of his then recent transfer to the command of the Army. Several of the reports of Department Commanders, which were to be received by October 15, have been delayed. The annual reports of the bureau officers are all in the hands of the Secretary of War except the Chief of Ordnance's and the Surgeon General's. Gen. Benét does not expect to complete his report before the 1st of November. He proposes to go into the heavy ordnance question more extensively than ever this year. The reports will be given out from now on until all have been published.

THE naval members of the Ordnance Foundry Board have been in session during the past week at the Navy Department. They will complete the work assigned them within the next ten days, when they will meet the Army members who are also winding up their part of the work. The full report, showing in detail the probable cost for fitting out the two points selected as foundries for heavy guns for the Army and Navy, will be handed to the Secretary of the Navy in good season for an early transmission to Congress.

THE Lieutenant General has recommended to the Secretary of War the distribution of the magazine guns now completed and at the Springfield Armory as follows: 6th Infantry, Lee 370; 13th Infantry, Chaffee 370; 17th Infantry, Hotchkiss 370; 24th Infantry, Chaffee 370; 15th Infantry, Hotchkiss, 370, and 1st Infantry, Lee 370. In turning them over to the commanding officers of these regiments, they will be requested to make such distribution of them as will insure a careful and reliable

test. The purpose is to obtain a full report of the firings of the three guns, in order to ascertain the relative merits of each one.

GENERAL DRUM in his annual report which was given to the press on Friday earnestly recommends the passage of Col. Lyman's bill reported from the Military Committee last year, providing for the retirement of enlisted men on completion of 35 years honorable service, with three-fourths pay and allowances. On the subject of desertions he dwells at length, and recommends that the apprehension of deserters be made the duty of the United States marshals. The term of service should, he thinks, be reduced from five to three years. He further recommends a change from semi-monthly to bi-monthly settlements of clothing overdrawn.

THE November number of that able magazine, the "North American Review," contains an invaluable article on "Progress in Naval Armament," by Hobart Pasha, of the Turkish Navy. We give some extracts from it elsewhere.

THE proceedings of the Boards appointed to examine applicants for the position of Post Quartermaster Sergeants have been received by General Holabird in a number of cases, but he has not as yet made any recommendation to the War Department as to the appointments.

THE construction of the central and western wings of the State, War and Navy Department Building is being rapidly pushed under the direction of Captain Casey. The foundations have been completed and the basement story is well under way. Six immense derricks, looming up like masts from a large vessel, are at work moving the large pieces of granite into position.

ANOTHER Board of Officers, presided over by Gen. A. J. Perry, U. S. A., met at Fort Hamilton on Tuesday, to look further into the matter of a site for the new barracks for the Light Battery.

RECENT DEATHS.

CAPTAIN DOMINICK LYNCH, a veteran of the U. S. Navy, on the retired list, died at his residence, 555 Henry street, Brooklyn, on Friday of last week, Oct. 10, in his 71st year. He was born at No. 1 Greenwich street, New York City, in 1813, and entered the Navy as a midshipman Feb. 2, 1839, was attached to the Mediterranean Squadron during the first five years of his service, and performed duty on the ships Ontario, Concord, Java, Delaware, and United States. July 3, 1835, he was promoted Passed Midshipman, and detailed on the receiving ship Hudson. During the next two years he was attached successively to the frigates United States and Constitution in the Mediterranean Squadron. Then he joined the Pacific Squadron, and served on the sloops St. Louis and Dale and the schooner Shark. He was commissioned Lieutenant in September, 1841, and joined the sloop Plymouth in the Brazil Squadron. Then he returned to the Mediterranean Squadron and joined the steam frigate San Jacinto.

In 1846 he was assigned to the steamer Mississippi, of the home squadron, and subsequently to the receiving ship Pennsylvania. He joined the Pacific squadron in 1848 and served on the sloops Vincennes and Vandalia. From 1851 to 1855 he was on duty at the Brooklyn Navy yard, and was placed on the retired list, Sept. 13, 1855. He performed chart duty in 1859-60, and when the Rebellion broke out he volunteered his services and was assigned to the steamer Daylight, of the North Atlantic blockading squadron. He assisted at the capture of Fort Macon, and had a spirited engagement with field batteries in Lynnhaven Bay. On July 21, 1861, he was commissioned Commander and given command of the brig Bainbridge. Subsequently he commanded the ordnance ship St. Lawrence. From 1863 to 1865 he was in charge of the naval station at Beaufort, N. C., and in '66-7 he was Naval Storekeeper in the Philadelphia Navy yard. In March, 1867, he was commissioned Captain on the retired list, and was appointed Executive Officer of the Naval Asylum in Philadelphia. He remained there until 1871 when he was placed in command of the receiving ship at Boston receiving a commission as Captain on the active list January 30, 1871. He was again placed on the retired list January 30, 1872. The funeral took place on Monday, October 13, from his late residence and was private, only the members of the family and few immediate friends being present. The remains were taken to the old Cathedral, in Mott street, New York, where they were placed in a vault beside the body of the father of the deceased, Dominick Lynch, an old New York merchant, who died many years ago. Among the mourners at the funeral was Lieutenant Carmody, his son-in-law, Executive Officer of the Yantic.

BRIG.-GEN. BENJAMIN ALVORD, U. S. A., retired, died on Thursday, Oct. 16, at his residence in Washington, D. C. His record is one of long, distinguished, and faithful service, and his death will be universally regretted. He entered the Military Academy in 1829, was graduated in 1833 and assigned to the 4th Infantry, in which regiment he served

for 21 years, doing good service in the Florida War and in the Mexican War, being conspicuous for his gallantry at Palo Alto, Resaca de la Palma, and in several affairs with guerrillas. He also served as chief of staff to Gen. Lally in the march from Vera Cruz to Mexico, and after the war on frontier duty until he was appointed Paymaster. He served during the war as Brigadier General, U. S. V., and at its close returned to the Pay Department, and was retired as Paymaster General June 8, 1880. Gen. Alvord was the author of several mathematical works and numerous essays and reviews. In 1854 he received the degree of A. M. from the University of Vermont.

JOHN ENGLESTON, a veteran sea captain of Salem, Mass., who died at Hyannis recently at the age of eighty-one, rendered much service when Commodore Wilkes's exploring expedition visited the Fiji Islands in 1840, by taking the United States steamship Peacock, one of the vessels of the squadron, safely into the harbor, to which he had for years sailed. He commanded the first vessel from Massachusetts to California in 1848, after the gold fever set in. He gave a very interesting account of his voyage in the historical collections of the Essex Institute. He was a member of the Salem City Council in 1854.

THE Patriot, of Lebanon, Ohio, referring to the recent death in that city of Mrs. Mary Harmon, wife of Lieutenant W. R. Harmon, 10th U. S. Cavalry, says: "Mrs. Harmon was a consistent member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and was one of the most highly esteemed ladies in our town. By her amiable disposition, her goodness and greatness of heart, her Christian bearing and charitable acts, her devotion and friendship, she attracted around her a large circle of friends who now join the grief-stricken husband and sons in shedding tears over her newly-made grave."

MR. EUGENE PICKETT, who died in New York October 10, was formerly a 2d Lieutenant of the 23d U. S. Infantry, and served with credit during the war in the volunteer service, receiving the brevets of Major and Lieutenant-Colonel U. S. V., for distinguished gallantry at the battles of Second Bull Run, Virginia, and Antietam. In 1867 he was appointed 2d Lieutenant 12th U. S. Infantry, placed on the unassigned list in 1869, assigned to the 22d U. S. Infantry in 1870, and discharged December 31 of that year.

WE regret to announce the death of Mrs. Rhoades, wife of Medical Director A. C. Rhoades, U. S. Navy. The funeral services were held on Thursday at the residence of a brother in law of the deceased lady, Mr. J. C. De La Vergne, 55 East 80th Street, New York City, on Friday, October 17, and the remains were taken on Saturday to Schenectady, N. Y., for interment.

MRS. M. Z. CHURCH, the venerable widow of the late Professor Albert E. Church, U. S. Army, died at Hartford, Conn., October 13. The remains were taken to West Point, where they were interred on Wednesday, many old friends of the deceased lady and her distinguished husband being present at the ceremonies.

COL. Henry Joseph Doherty, of the 84th Canadian Infantry, brother of the Doherty who entered the barn and captured Wilkes Booth when besieged by his pursuers after the assassination of President Lincoln, died at Montreal, Oct. 13.

LATE ARMY ORDERS.

The sick leave of Major Lewis Merrill, 7th Cavalry, is extended six months. (S. O. H. Q. A., October 16.)
Leave for six months is granted Captain Mott Hooton, 2d Infantry. (S. O. H. Q. A., October 16.)
Captain E. M. Heyl, 4th Cavalry, A. A. I. G., will proceed to Albany, N. Y., and make an inspection of the penitentiary at that place used as a military prison. (S. O. 212, Dept. East, October 17.)
1st Lieutenant H. E. Anderson 4th Artillery, a member of the team of the Division of the Atlantic for 1884, will return to his station. (S. O. 69, D. Atlantic, October 17.)
Major Ely McCallan, Surgeon, is relieved from duty in the Department of the East. (S. O. 212, D. East, October 17.)
Leave of absence for ten days is granted Major J. P. Willard, Paymaster (Buffalo, N. Y.). (S. O. 212, D. East, October 17.)
2d Lieutenant J. K. Thompson, 23d Infantry, is relieved as a member and appointed Judge Advocate of the G. C. M. at Fort Porter, N. Y., vice 1st Lieut. J. H. Pardee, 23d Infantry, relieved as Judge Advocate on account of sickness. (S. O. 12, D. East, October 17.)
1st Lieut. S. C. Mills, 12th Inf., is detailed Professor of Military Science and Tactics at Knox College, Galesburg, Ill. (S. O. H. Q. A., Oct. 17.)
Capt. E. W. Clift, 13th Inf., and John McGilvray, 2d Art., are retired from active service, Oct. 17, on account of disability. (S. O. H. Q. A., Oct. 17.)
A Board, to consist of Capt. W. S. Worth, 8th Inf., Asst. Surgeon B. F. Pope and Lieut. T. O. Davenport, 9th Cavalry, will meet in Washington Oct. 21, to examine applicants for appointment as Superintendents of National Cemeteries. (S. O. H. Q. A., Oct. 17.)
The leave of Lieut. F. S. Calhoun, 14th Inf., is extended two months. (S. O. H. Q. A., Oct. 17.)
The sick leave of Lieut. G. K. Spencer, 19th Inf., is extended six months. (S. O. H. Q. A., Oct. 17.)
Leave for three months, from Nov. 20, 1884, is granted Lieut. J. N. Glass, 6th Cavalry. (S. O. H. Q. A., Oct. 17.)

WHEN the curtain fell at the Princess's Theatre, London, on Thursday night, Oct. 16, on the conclusion of Mr. Wilton Barrett's first production of "Hamlet," the audience demanded a speech from the tragedian, Mr. Barrett, in answer to the repeated calls, appeared before the curtain, and said: "My heart is too full to speak, but I would like to tell you a little story. Twenty-five years ago a poor and friendless lad, having paid his last sixpence to sit in the gallery and see Edmund Keam, stood outside the theatre and made a vow that he would one day be manager of the Princess Theatre and play Hamlet. I was that boy

SOME OHIO SOLDIERS.

THE Hon. J. G. Blaine, in a recent speech at Lancaster, Ohio, the home of his boyhood, said: "In that row of buildings on the opposite side of the street, in one of which I am now a guest, lived at that time the first three lawyers in Ohio—Thomas Ewing, Henry Stanberry, and Hacking Hunter. I vividly recall their persons and their peculiarities. Shortly before that time there had come home from West Point a tall and very slender young man, straight as an arrow, with a sharp face and full suit of red hair. His name was Sherman, and he had in his pocket an order to join the Army in Florida. You have heard of him since. You have heard of him, and he will be heard of as long as the march through Georgia holds its place in history; he will be heard of as long as lofty character and military genius are esteemed among men. About the same time, from a country town to the southwest of this place, there was sent to West Point a sturdy, strong-headed youth who also was heard of in the war and whose fame has since encircled the globe. His name is Ulysses S. Grant. Right in the adjoining county of Perry there lived a short, stout boy who has since become known to the world as Phil Sheridan. Combative yet gentle in nature, he achieved a reputation not unlike that which they received in the Napoleonic wars. So that Ohio was then preparing military leaders for great contingencies and for unforeseen crises. I remember another youth of this town, slender, tall, stately, who had just left school and was a civil engineer on the Muskingum River improvements. You have since heard of him, his name is John Sherman."

AN ARMY WEDDING.

LAST week we referred briefly to the marriage at Nashotah, Wisconsin, Oct. 8, of Gen. A. McD. McCook, U. S. A., to Miss Colt. Correspondence from Nashotah gives the following particulars:

Included among the guests were Gen. W. T. Sherman and daughter, John J. McCook, a brother of the bridegroom, with his wife and sister; Mr. and Mrs. Curtis and daughter of New Orleans, Gen. H. B. Chitt, U. S. A., and several other officers (e. g., Lieut. Grossbeck, adjutant 6th Infantry; Col. and Mrs. J. W. Barlow, O. E.; Capt. and Mrs. Chas. King, Capt. W. L. Marshall, O. E.—Ed. JOURNAL), with many noted society people. The marriage ceremony took place at 1 o'clock, the Rev. Dr. L. A. Kemper officiating. The ushers were Francis Bloodgood, Jr., a nephew of the bride; H. K. Miller, Jr., Andrew A. Hathaway, J. B. Kemper, and George Miller.

The bridesmaids were Miss Lillian Carpenter, daughter of the late Senator Carpenter; Marion Bloodgood, niece of the bride; Miss Julia Finney, daughter of General Manager Finney, of the Wisconsin Central Railway Company; Miss Jeannette Hathaway, and Miss Jeannie Ogden.

The groom, in the full-dress uniform of his rank as a brigadier general, was supported by Gen. Clitz, who was also in full-dress uniform. The bride appeared in white satin and point lace, wearing a bouquet of white roses tied with a white satin ribbon.

At the close of the ceremony the bridal party and a large number of the guests repaired to the country residence of the Hon. Francis Bloodgood. Mr. Bloodgood is a wealthy and prominent gentleman of Milwaukee, and fills the office of United States Court Commissioner in that city. A reception took place, which was attended not only by the guests from abroad, but by many of the wealthy society people who occupy summer homes in the immediate vicinity. The summer season for city people who live here during the warm weather was prolonged, the wedding being regarded as the fitting close of a brilliant season.

The bride has been universally popular among the society elements of the State, and the congratulations extended to her and to the bridegroom were of the most hearty and genuine nature. Miss Colt has been noted as one of the best educated women in this part of the country. Much of her life has been spent in travel and studious research on the Continent of Europe and in South America. Her father, who is now dead, was one of the noted old banking houses of Peckham and Colt, the head of the firm being Mrs. Colt's brother and a member of the noted Peckham family of New York.

The acquaintance and courtship of the gallant officer and his beautiful bride have been of the most romantic character, and the wedding was one of the most brilliant in all respects ever known in this part of the country. The bride and bridegroom, accompanied by a party of friends, start for Chicago, where a wedding breakfast in their honor will take place at the Palmer House. Gen. and Mrs. McCook will spend several days in Chicago, and will then make a wedding trip to Manitow Springs and Denver.

THE TALLAPOOSA WRECK.

A TELEGRAM from Lieut.-Commander Hitchcock to the Secretary of the Navy, dated Edgartown, Oct. 14, reports "lifted chains last night for northerly blow, bringing Tallapoosa one hundred and fifty feet further in since telegram of the 11th, which reported that the pontoons had been replaced, and in twenty-one feet of water." She is now not far distant from the dock. In a previous communication of Oct. 13, he said: "During the forenoon a boat from the Ynca picked up and brought on board all the crockery, silver-plated ware, etc., that still remained on the hurricane deck, of which there was quite a miscellaneous lot, all in a more or less damaged condition. Much of the chinaware was permanently discolored by iron rust, and the plating has peeled from the ware, allowing the metal to rust. The ship's two steering compasses were also brought off, the standard compass having disappeared. At this time the floor of the pilot-house, resting upon the hurricane deck, was dry, and everything of any value that could be reached was taken off."

The Tallapoosa is lying, heading in, with her bow, which is more than three feet out, in 21 feet of water. The rail is visible some 30 or 40 feet forward, and as far aft on the starboard side as the break made by the collision. The hurricane deck abaft the mainmast is gone. The tops of both paddle-boxes, also the outside of the starboard one, are likewise gone. A part of the bare frame of the deck-house remains, also the drum around the smokestack, and one of the fire room ventilators. The late blow interfered with the operations of the wrecking company.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

HIGHLAND VILLA.

NEAR West Point a great need has been supplied during the past season, by the opening (under the auspices of Mr. Lewis W. Cass) of the Highland Villa (formerly Mearns House.) The Highland Villa has been prepared for his family as a summer resort, and winter home—thus affording facilities for parents or friends of cadets who desire to pass the season of Thanksgiving, or Christmas holidays in comfort at a reasonable rate. A number of summer guests still remain at the Villa—loth to leave the quiet beauties that surround them. Among these are Gen. and Miss Vogdes who have been guests of Mr. Cass since early June.

THE retirement of Captain John McGilvray, 2d Artillery, will give 1st Lieutenant T. D. Maurice, at present on light duty at St. Augustine, a captaincy. The retirement of Captain Clift, 13th Infantry, promotes Lieutenant Jesse C. Chance to captain.

GEN. MEIGS AND THE COMPTROLLER.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 14, 1884.

I do not like being presented to my comrades in the Army as in trouble about my compensation as architect of the new Pension Building.

The action of a general law of retirement, not my own act, relieved me, in fact excluded me from all military service to the United States. I was then glad to be employed as an architect, in which profession many years of study and some practice have given me some knowledge—I will not say skill—instead of retiring to idleness. There is no possible relation between the duties, while they existed, of a Quartermaster General and those of a civil architect. One of the committee who framed the law which provided for the erection of a Pension Building under my supervision has borne testimony to the Attorney-General that the committee by the law intended just compensation. The Comptroller could not see it. The Secretary of the Interior, not I, instituted suit in the Court of Claims, under sec. 1063, Revised Statutes, which provides this resort for a Secretary to determine "controversial questions of law" in any case. The court, as the law directs, gave its decision. The Comptroller is not willing to obey the court, but repudiates its decision; thence the existing trouble.

The enclosed slip which I find in the Washington *Daily Post* of October 13th, shows how the Secretary of the Interior regards his action. The Comptroller by his outcry at first induced the Attorney General to file an appeal to the Supreme Court. It was withdrawn upon representation first from myself, and later by the late Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Folger, and by the Secretary of the Interior. Of the final result there can be no doubt the money will be paid, but it takes time to bring an obstinate officer to reason, especially when, infatuated with belief in his own greatness, he despises the highest courts and repudiates their decisions, and is not like officers of the Army, subject to summary process by courts-martial. Respectfully, etc.,

M. C. MEIGS.

In the letter referred to by General Meigs Secretary Teller shows that the Court of Claims is clothed with jurisdiction in such cases, and that its decision is final, there having been no appeal taken to the Supreme Court. If he says "the Comptroller can disregard the judgment of the Court of Claims on the ground that he does not think the court has correctly decided the case, he may, under like circumstances, disregard the judgment of the Supreme Court."

A COURT OF HONOR.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

THE spirited communication of "Navy Officer," in a recent number of the JOURNAL, in which he urges the time has come when bluster and insult should be put down by resort to the code, suggests the propriety of instituting in the Service a court of honor similar to that in vogue in other services, where "men of the sword" are held to a strict account for violation of the amenities of life. Serious differences between officers could be referred to this tribunal, and the bully or cad be made either to fight or resign. As manners and sentiment are now in the Service, a man insulted, and feeling the dictates of honor, sees no chance of redress except through the dubious expedient of "reports," which in the present condition of our laws for obtaining justice are generally a delusion and a snare.

Will "Navy Officer," who seems so justly indignant, and who appears to have had much the writer's experience, formulate some plan by which the good old days when honor ruled may come again, and thus reform the spirit which is now abroad, and threatens more than the want of big ships to destroy the power of our gallant Navy.

C. H.

NEW YORK, Oct. 9, 1884.

THE TEXAS COURT-MARTIAL.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

THERE have been quite numerous remarks made in the daily papers and in some "weeklies" relative to a review of a Court-martial in Texas, and now comes "Dakota" who, in your issue of September 27, also "flies off the handle," so to speak. He enters into a dissertation as to "powers" of presidents of Courts-martial not relative to the case in point—for, if the president of a court as now constituted has no power, no offence was committed to the president of the court referred to. It is not necessary to say that a large number of officers do not think it necessary to further empower presidents of Courts-martial; what they lack in "power" under the law they very often assume, and are usually supported in such assumption by higher authority. Ranking men can, and usually do, take care of themselves. Simply because a few officers take opposite views from one who happens to be president of a court it does not become necessary to "howl" reform throughout the Army, and invest said president with an infallible toga and a Commander's authority.

Referring to the Court-martial which has brought out the opinions expressed by "Dakota" and others, would it not be well to hear the "other side"? I have known orders to be issued under an erroneous idea of the facts. In reading over the order referred to, it seems that everybody was wrong but the president. It is not usual that a whole court of educated men will be absolutely wrong and one right only. While all officers are willing to show deference to rank it can hardly be required to be extended to the person.

One would imagine from "Dakota's" cry for more power for presidents of Courts-martial that it was usual for such courts to break up in disorderly confusion, or,

speaking plainly, "in a row." I do not think this is the case; in fact, this case is the only one coming under my observation in many years. As a fact, Courts-martial where I have served (among other places, about fifteen years in the Department of Texas, first and last) have always been conducted with decorum, and I have noticed, too, that the law in the cases was not always entirely and only within the knowledge of the presidents of the courts.

Relative to the alleged remark of the officer (I presume) "high in authority," as given by "Dakota," that "the mistake made was in not bringing them all to trial" (referring to "delinquents" indicated in order publishing proceedings of court referred to), I will say that it was not the desire of the officers so scathingly rebuked to escape trial, nor do they consider that it would be best for them not to be tried, if they cannot obtain a hearing by Court of Inquiry, which they have long since earnestly requested.

TEXAS.

TARGET PRACTICE.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

THIS year's shooting has developed a wonderful improvement, thanks to the dainties stirring the whites up. "X," of Fort Halleck, Nevada, last year pitched into Captain Thompson's Company at Fort Sill for having 100 for figure of merit. What will he say this year when the 11th Infantry comes near having 200, or the whole regiment being all marksmen, and nearly all sharpshooters? I should write a letter and ask each company commander who did his scoring. Perhaps, very properly, in the 11th they might dodge the question. Bully for the 11th, I say, if I am a beaten nigger. They have used all the ammunition they wanted, not confined themselves to fifteen shots at any one range, but with common sense used more when necessary, and counted figure of merit from beginning of target practice season. This is disobedience of orders, and all that, you know, but it is good common sense. In the Pacific they have covers for front sights, a great advantage, and are allowed a warming and sighting shot, against orders, but with better results than our obedience. Good comes from all of this, and we are waking up. We want less red tape, less per cent., and more common sense. Simply say, "Go ahead, and shoot as you please, at end of September send in your report according to your monthly return, giving sharpshooters, marksmen, etc., and figure of merit," and let this be the only report during year. Omit counting only those men on the strength of company that month who have not been in company at least two months, and able to shoot at that time. This will simplify matters and stop all the conundrums now being asked by target cranks. Send the inspectors of rifle practice to different posts during target practice season, to keep the Department Commander informed of the amount of interest taken and where the blame rests, with company or post commanders; then go for those gentlemen who are more than willing to draw their pay. Common sense and work make sharpshooters, not orders or red tape.

DAKOTA.

SQUIBBO HAS HIS OPINION.

My dear Journal:

It will, no doubt, please you to learn that the "Navy" is now at sea, as your old friend Squibbo, who has now the high rank of a (trade dollar) Lieutenant, has just been ordered as a watch officer to the good old ship "Bugaboo." I find her much the same as when I first stood watch on her decks as an Ensign eighteen years ago, and I suppose she will continue the same, only a trifle more rotten, if I should come to her as Navigator fifteen years hence. We haven't many ships left now, to be sure, but then we can congratulate ourselves on any amount of uniform, and every time we have one ship less, we are assigned one coat more. It was about our pretty, new clothes that I wish to write you, and tell you how proud we feel in them.

I had great difficulty in persuading the Custom House people on my arrival here that I was not in the clothing business, and about to set up a second-hand establishment on shore, as I had so many coats and trousers, and some thought that I was about to equip a revolutionary army and upset the Government. But it is well to have one's wealth in convenient form, and it is also nice to have lots of clothing.

Sometimes it is rather uncomfortable to carry so many boxes—stiff cocked-hat, helmet, caps, epaulettes, etc., but then, you know, it looks "so English" to have a hat box or two, and that fact more than pays for the trouble. We are all so happy with our new clothes, now that the uniform circular is in force, and we look with pity on the poor fellows in the Army who have only two kinds of coats and one kind of trousers to carry around when they travel.

We have a full dress coat, which we only wear once a month, to show that we have it, and it isn't seen at any other time: then there is the social full dress, which we wear when we dine with "some of them" ere kings. Then there are the frock coats worn once a week, besides blouses, blue and white, to any extent. The new overcoat is very nice, too, there being nothing uniform about it, and when it is worn on shore, one shows his scorn of fashion as this hand me-down is so unlike the overcoats worn by every one else.

Billy Bowline, of our mess, went to make some calls on the flagship the other day, and before it was over found the business was quite an undertaking. He first called on the Admiral, and had to put on his full dress coat and all the "fixings." He couldn't call on Capt. Blowhard in that uniform, under the new order, and so came on board and shifted to frock coat, cocked-hat, epaulettes. After his visit to the Captain he wanted to call on the wardroom, but, under the order, had too much uniform on, and so came back again, and put on his cap and shoulder straps in place of the cocked hat and epaulettes, in order to make the call.

The new helmet is very popular. It is so heavy and uncomfortable, and you have to take it off to see aloft, or to get a spy-glass to the eye. But the advantage is that it encourages politeness in the Navy.

One youngster here remarked, "To hell mit it," at which improper proceeding he was promptly suppressed.

Yours,

"SQUIBBO."

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATION, August 25, 1884.

NAVAL UNIFORMS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

WHEN the late Naval Uniform Regulations were issued, it was doubtless supposed that uniformity would certainly be secured; and so it would be if the iron hand of precedent could be relaxed. A glance at the Regulations in question shows that the service coat (or blouse) is to be worn as the uniform on all occasions, except when certain different specified dresses are prescribed. The frock coat, which has been for so many years the standby in the service, it will be observed, is not to be worn without the sword, a radical departure from all previous customs and regulations. This strikes me as a grave error, for there are occasions when the proper dress (whether for a civilian or for an officer) is a frock coat, and when to wear a blouse would be as great a solecism as to wear evening dress. Such, for instance, was the occasion of the recent visit of the President to the Torpedo Station: the Chief Magistrate was received by the officers of the station in full dress; but after the reception was over they shifted into frock coats (necessarily without the sword) to carry on the exercises. So also the visiting officers from the squadron were clad in the same dress, which while eminently appropriate and sanctioned by long custom, was yet entirely contrary to the regulations. Indeed, there was but one officer that I saw who was dressed as the regulations prescribe, viz., in the service coat. It would be a simple matter to make the change, which I am not alone in considering necessary. The addition of the words "Undress, without sword and belt," will be worn on occasions of a social nature when a frock coat would be expected to be worn by civilians," would settle the whole question and make the regulations as near perfection as possible.

While on the subject I cannot refrain from indulging the hope that the day is not far distant when the brass-bound "special full dress" coat will be abolished; it is a relic of the "effete despotisms of Europe," of little ornament and of less use, and should never have been resuscitated after the war. Indeed, having in view the possibilities of the future, I am not sure but that the proposition of your correspondent "Panache," to have but one coat for all purposes, is the best one ever yet made public.

CABLE.

THE FIFTY YEARS' BILL.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

OCTOBER 6, 1884.

AN expression of opinion is requested on the proposed bill, "To retire company officers at fifty years of age, giving increased rank to those who have served as enlisted men or officers, who have served twenty-five years."

Such a bill would not be just to volunteer officers who gave up all for their country in 1861, and in getting appointments in Regular Army lost some months' service before receiving such regular commission. I and several others whom I know would approve of such a bill, substituting over twenty-one years for the words twenty-five, or by adding at their own request. I think you will see the justness of my objections.

CALIFORNIA, Sept. 28, 1884.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

APPROPOS of your article in a recent issue on promotion, it seems at last that the Line of the Army is waking from its lethargy and really proceeding in a business-like way to organize for action. Line officers who are sensible of the discontent that now reigns supreme—among so many captains and lieutenants of 20 years standing—have often been twitted with the remark that: "Oh, you can not arouse the line from its apathy. They will growl, but will not act." It seems now that they are about to refute that former truism in a very practical way, and it will be well for the younger portion of the line that they should do so. If failure shall result from a want of interest on the part of the lieutenants and younger captains, it will be the last effort that will ever be made on the part of that now large, but rapidly decreasing number of war captains who have been striving these last dozen years to obtain legislation that would at once be a benefit to the individual officer and the people at large, by infusing new life into an organization now sadly inefficient from old age.

So we say "Let every individual officer of the Cavalry, Artillery and Infantry put his shoulder to the wheel, or step aside and admit that he is willing to accept reward from the labor of his more active brother officers, and yet unwilling to contribute his share of the burden. If there are such in the line to-day, time will soon point them out."

PACIFIC.

"HAVE you ever thought of applying electricity as a destructive agent in war time?" Edison was asked by a reporter in Washington the other day. "I have made some curious experiments with a small tube of very thick glass," he replied. "Two platinum wires are introduced, one at each end, the ends remaining a short distance apart, and, after the hollow space has been almost entirely filled with water, the ends of the tube are soldered up. A dynamo machine is then attached to the wires, and the force being applied, the water decomposes into oxygen and hydrogen, and a tremendous pressure is brought to bear against the sides of the tube. When the tube breaks, the water flashes into gas just as nitro-glycerine does, and its expansion is about as great. This explosive is portable, cheap and safe, since the glass tube is absolutely non-explosive until the wires are connected with the dynamo. It can be used instead of a charge of powder in a cannon, it is admirably adapted for blasting purposes, or might be applied in a torpedo. You can put a tube away under ground, and after connecting the platinum wires with a little battery, regulate the current so that it would explode in a day, a year, or even ten years."

THE STATE TROOPS.

INSPECTION OF THE TWENTY-THIRD NEW YORK.

Although, as will be seen from the table at the end of this article, there were over 600 men in line, yet the percentage of absentees at the annual muster of the Twenty-third was greatly in excess of that of former years—a fact accounted for, by Colonel Ward, by the absence of a large number of its members on business at this time of the year. The inspection, as has been the custom for some time past, took place at the parade ground of the Marine Barracks, at the Brooklyn Navy yard, which had been put at the disposal of the regiment through the courtesy of Col. Charles Heywood, Commandant of the Barracks. The regiment arrived a few minutes before two P. M., and as it filed through the gate the marine guard on duty there turned out and rendered the customary honors. It then formed line by the command left front into line faced to the rear, and presented to the numerous assemblage of spectators a solid, compact front of blue set off by brilliant gilt ornaments and a glittering array of polished steel shining in the bright sunlight—a brilliant but thoroughly military spectacle, because the matter of ornamentation was not overdone, and nothing incompatible with the equipment of an organization of practical, serviceable soldiers was to be seen. The blue service uniforms wear well and are, as ever, regarded with universal favor, nor were they ever set off to better advantage than on this occasion. Had two or three men (some of them in the color company) possessed sufficient self control to keep their hands down while the reviewing party passed along on this occasion, this part of the ceremony would have been perfect. The present arms was very handsome, while the passage in point of alignments and distances was satisfactory in every respect, with the exception that the commander of one company neglected to look at the reviewing officer, and as the command marked time in order to correct distances, line was reformed with an almost instantaneous alignment. The absence of such a large number of men from the ranks would have hardly occurred to an uninitiated spectator while looking at the well extended company fronts as they were drawn up in column waiting for the inspector. Well fitting uniforms, clean ornaments and equipments, generally properly adjusted and a fairly set up set of men who handled their pieces with promptness and ease, were the order of the day. As a general thing officers have thoroughly rehearsed their duties, and they took their positions and gave their commands during the inspection distinctly and without hesitation. The only errors we noticed occurred in a quarter where they were least expected. The Adjutant at the approach of the Inspector brought up his sword and turned the blade; the non-commissioned staff, with one exception, simply executed the present without turning their swords. The exception was the Ordnance Sergeant, who performed his part properly by showing both sides of the sword blade as required by the tactics in the cases of enlisted men. The weather was bright and crisp, but the wind was strong and chilly, which made it anything but a comfortable task, especially for the rear companies, to stand still and look at the tedious performance of inspection going on in front of them. In order to keep the men's blood in circulation, the captains had to keep them moving, and occasionally a company would leave its ground and perform a spin in double time around the parade. But, like everything else, an inspection, be it ever so long winded, comes to an end, and the command doubtless felt much relieved when the "here" of the last man of the rear company had died away, and when the bugle sounded the assembly for equalization for drill. The companies were reduced to sixteen files, and the first movement was a march in company front with fair alignments, but distances too large, followed by the command on left into line. The movement was fair, but two or three of the guides were behind time in coming on the alignment, and had to be called out and told to invert their pieces. The regiment then advanced by the flanks of companies, executed four right, marched around again in company front, this time with better distances, and then wheeled into line to the left, making a handsome alignment, with exception of the second company in line, which fell behind the first and created an interval.

It may be stated here that the principle that at the command "halt," every man stands fast, was evidently not understood. In every formation of line all through the drill whenever a company lost distance, every one of its members immediately upon the command halt rushed in to fill up the gap, and the next following company, although it had very probably performed its part properly, was transformed into the scapegoat, and had to shoulder the responsibility. Next came a number of marches in column of fours and company front in double time. At first the men were somewhat wild, but after they had run some distance they became steady, and then performed several passages around the field in company fronts in very handsome style. A double column of fours followed by a formation of line by two movements was one of the best executed movements of the drill, which had to be out short, as the sun was setting and the breeze was becoming extremely uncomfortable. The remainder of the movements, which were, with the exception of a few short but well executed advances in line of battle, repetitions of those already described, were generally performed in double time, and as a rule correctly executed. The whole wound up with a very creditable exhibition of the fringes, which were delivered with vim and promptitude. The positions of the feet of the rear rank men, however, require more thorough looking after, while the command for the men to remove their right hand gloves might have been dispensed with without detriment to the effect of the whole. The drill was a fine one, in spite of the few errors pointed out, and it is seldom that movements are executed with more precision in an open field. The regiment looked every inch the fine organization it has the reputation to be, and its instruction and discipline are equalled by but few volunteer organizations in the country.

The following table shows the strength of the different companies in detail:

	Present.		Absent.	
	Officers.	Men.	Men.	Agg.
F. and S.....	10	—	—	10
N. C. S.....	—	10	1	11
Company A.....	3	83	17	103
Company B.....	2	62	6	70
Company C.....	3	49	10	62
Company D.....	3	55	10	68
Company E.....	3	44	16	63
Company F.....	3	69	6	78
Company G.....	3	63	7	73
Company H.....	3	63	8	74
Company I.....	3	41	7	51
Company K.....	3	65	8	76
Total.....	39	604	96	739

As a fact worthy of notice we point out that not a single officer was absent.

INSPECTION OF THE TWENTY-SECOND NEW YORK.

After many fruitless requests, the Elevated Railroad authorities at last consented to accommodate the 22d with special trains, and, accordingly, the first detachment boarded the 9th Avenue and 14th Street station for the Van Cortlandt estate at 12.45 P. M., August 9, followed by the remainder of the regiment in short time. The whole started at 1.08 P. M., and, after a change of cars at 155th Street, the grounds were reached at 2.03 P. M. Assembly at the armory had been announced at 12.30; the men responded promptly. No time was wasted in forming line and other ceremonies useless under the circumstances, and it will be seen that it took the command but little more than an hour and a half from the first beat of the assembly to reach the parade. This may still appear a somewhat long-winded affair, but it is the best that can be had in New York, and the old hands who are accustomed to the Prospect Park grounds certainly pronounce the new line of travel, as well as the ground itself, a vast improvement.

On arrival, the command formed line, and after the Colonel had called the officers to the front and given instructions in regard to the direction of the march, the reviewing points, etc., guides and markers were placed and a general alignment was executed. The battalion was then prepared for review, rear-open-order, etc., but the command stood fast, and when the commander looked for the reason he found that he had omitted to order the colors and guides to their posts. Promptly rectifying his error, he repeated the command to open ranks only to find that bayonets were unfixed. The last mishap was doubtless due to the fact that as the line had been established with the sun in rear of the men the commander naturally received the full benefit of the light right in his face, and it was difficult to notice whether bayonets were on or off. The review was then executed smoothly and without flaw, the men were exceedingly steady, and the march with unequalled fronts highly creditable in point of alignments and distances, and the companies arrived in line actively and properly, with exception of the one in rear, which left a gap between it and the preceding one. The regiment then went into column of companies, and the inspection which followed was executed promptly and rapidly. Its principal characteristics were the close, uniform fit of the handsome, substantial regimental fatigue dress, well cleaned brasses and well adjusted accoutrements, and prompt and correct action of the company officers in going through the inspection and muster with their companies. We hardly witness an inspection where there does not occur more or less blundering in this particular. The inspection proper, which was one of the best executed portions of the programme, was concluded at 4.15. The command was not dismissed for equalization for drill, but time was saved by making the assignments on the spot, and with 10 commands of 16 files the drill started with an advance in column of companies by the flank, followed by companies left front into line, which was executed with precision, and at the command halt there were no intervals to be closed. At the conclusion of a very steady advance in line the companies again formed by the flanks, then executed left front into line in double time, marched again in line across the field; halted and prepared for a drill as skirmishers. This consisted of deployments, advances and retreats, firings, relieving and reinforcing the lines, etc., and when the skirmishers had been recalled, the battalion executed the loadings and firings by battalion, wing, rank, file, etc. The men were fairly instructed as to stepping off in the rear rank, better than several other regiments which have come under our observation lately, still the matter would bear strict looking after. The skirmishing was good, but intervals were evidently not properly understood and observed. The march was resumed in column of fours and regimental line formed to the front very promptly, with excellent action on the part of the guides, after which the command broke into fours from the right to march to the left, executed companies column left, and thus arrived opposite the place, where the knapsacks and canteens were deposited. This ended the drill, which for an open air one was excellent, still we would recommend more promptness of action on the part of the commanders of the 3d and 8th companies, and it was a fact that several officers without the guiding walls of the armory, when wheeling into column from line, lacked the ability of forming their commands into lines perpendicular to the original alignments. Generally speaking, the regiment performed and looked very well, and made the old impression of a reliable, practical organization. We should like to see it stronger in numbers, and hope that the expectations on this point, based upon the acquisition of the new armory, will be realized.

All were evidently much pleased with the grounds, and the hospitality of the proprietor, Mr. Van Cortlandt, who had provided a handsome spread for the officers. The annual dinner of the regiment took place in the evening at the Hotel Sherbourne, corner 5th Avenue and 36th Street, which was a quiet, pleasant affair, and partaken of by several guests, among whom was Inspector-General Briggs.

Numerical status of regiment:

	Present.		Absent.	
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.
F. and S.....	10	—	—	—
N. C. S.....	—	10	—	1
Company A.....	3	33	—	3
Company B.....	3	53	—	5
Company C.....	3	39	—	8
Company D.....	3	47	—	14
Company E.....	3	91	—	9
Company F.....	1	34	—	8
Company G.....	1	42	1	20
Company H.....	3	29	—	15
Company I.....	1	28	—	9
Company K.....	3	31	—	6
Total.....	34	457	2	98

INSPECTION OF THE FORTY-SEVENTH NEW YORK.

The Forty-seventh, although it has the longest distance to travel, was the only Brooklyn organization which took advantage of the beautiful parade at Prospect Park to hold its annual inspection, which took place Tuesday, Oct. 15. While the turnout may appear small at the first glance, it is, after all, a very creditable one if the circumstances under which the regiment holds its present existence are taken into consideration. In fact, although its origin dates quite far back, yet the present organization may be considered an entirely new one. For several years the regiment had been on the downward course, and it is hardly six months since its further continuation was despaired of. Without cohesion, with dissatisfaction pervading the Board of Officers, as well as what was left of the rank and file, it was thought by many that the end had come, and at this critical moment the friends of the regiment, as a *desperate resort*, brought about the election of the present commander, Col. Gaylor. The measure seems to have been the salvation of the organization, and everything now indicates that a new era of prosperity is at hand. The Colonel has held the reins only a few months, and the results of this method are just beginning

to appear. The table giving the strength of regiment shows the state into which some of the companies had fallen better than words, and at once give an idea of the work and energy required to bring it up again to a decent standard. That the work of complete reorganization will require the disbandment of one or two of the companies is generally conceded, and in fact the inspector general at the request of the colonel, will recommend such a measure. As the regiment now stands the greater portion of its material has been obtained during the last two or three months, an immense amount of dead wood, both commissioned and enlisted has been weeded out, and it may be considered that the whole is beginning its career as an entirely new organization, and from this basis, its appearance and performance should be considered.

Inspection had been ordered for 2 P. M., but the regiment arrived at Prospect Park shortly after eleven and the time at their disposal, before the arrival of the inspector, was spent to good advantage by a series of lively battalion movements. The new uniform had been received from the arsenal on the night before, and was worn on this occasion for the first time. A few men still appeared in the old gray. The review was fair as to steadiness, the march past, considering the great disparity in the sizes of the companies and the inexperience of quite a number of the guides, might be called creditable, but the gaps on wheeling into line, to draw it mild, were entirely out of proportion with the size of the command. As is the case with every batch of uniforms which have been manufactured in a hurry the fit in many cases could be improved, but this is no fault of the regiment. The muskets were in better condition than is usually the case, but brasses might have received a little more attention. Otherwise the officers and men acted and appeared no worse than was to be expected in an organization the majority of whose members have joined within a few months and who have received little, if any, instruction. Under these circumstances the manual which began the drill was very creditable. The manoeuvres which followed demonstrated the necessity of a severe course of theoretical, as well as practical, instruction, especially for officers and guides, which they will doubtless receive during the ensuing season. In column of fours the left guides generally neglected to drop out of the column and many of them showed their lack of instruction in the deployments by their tardiness in coming on the alignment, which rendered the task of the Colonel, who had no field office to assist him, doubly difficult. The company commanders did not understand the principles of close column formations: to the left, in advancing in line of battle colors and general guides in several instances failed to march in advance of the line, in breaking from the left to march to the right by fours a number of captains remained in position opposite the centre of their companies, in the fringes the position of the pieces was bad, many captains and 1st sergeants did not go to the rear, and the position of the feet of the rear rank as may be imagined was bad. In the left wing at the command fire by company, two companies would invariably fire together, and in marching in column of fours the distances were faulty. These are the principal errors we noticed during the movements, and they will show that it will be a task to bring the regiment up to the level of our first-class organizations. However, what was done here was only the beginning, and the regiment as exhibited is only the nucleus of an entirely new organization. What we observed convinced us that an energetic spirit pervades the whole, that men and officers take interest in the work, and this and a brisk system of recruiting, with the prospect of the new Armory, which is now being constructed, and a thorough course of instruction will soon bring the regiment up to the desired standard.

The figures of the inspection are as follows:

	Present.		Absent.	
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.
Field.....	1	—	1	—
Staff.....	4	—	3	—
N. C. Staff.....	—	10	—	1
Company A.....	2	25	—	10
Company B.....	2	28	—	9
Company D.....	3	41	—	18
Company E.....	—	9	—	14
Company F.....	1	49	—	8
Company G.....	2	39	—	13
Company H.....	—	7	—	22
Company I.....	1	47	—	8
Company K.....	2	22	—	9
Totals.....	18	277	5	111

INSPECTION OF THE EIGHTH NEW YORK.

The Eighth New York, the old Washington Greys, the oldest organization in the city, shows best, to what condition a once famous and numerous organization may be reduced by continued municipal neglect. The regiment has done service to the State and country for nearly a century, and has gallantly responded to every call when its services were needed. When it assembled at the Van Cortlandt Property on Tuesday, Oct. 7, it was the mere skeleton of its former self, and yet the number of men who responded to the call for muster exceeded the expectations of many who know its troubles and their cause. The plight in which the regiment finds itself to-day is, however, not as in other instances, the result of lack of practical energetic management on the part of its commander, nor of dissensions and quarrels among the officers, for the latter are and have been entirely harmonious; the finances of the regiment are well managed and in good condition, there is a balance in the treasury, and the commander, Col. Geo. D. Scott, is unusually competent, full of energy and a faithful, untiring worker. Under almost any other commander there would hardly be any 8th Regiment at all to-day. The misfortune of the regiment is solely due to the fact that for a number of years, since its handsome little Armory in 23d Street became a prey to the flames, it has been virtually homeless, the interest of its members waned, and they dropped out gradually until its present depleted condition became the result. At the eleventh hour, however, the city authorities have at last recognized their claim of the organization, and a new Armory is to be built for them at 92d Street and 4th Avenue.

The regiment arrived at the ground at Van Cortlandt early in the forenoon of the day of the inspection and went at once to work. There has not been much opportunity for drill lately, and the exercises were only fair with frequent need of corrections. It was hardly to be expected otherwise, but the drill improved as it progressed, and was under quite fair headway when the time for inspection arrived. The review was not first-class, the companies were too unequal in size for that, but the men behaved as well as could be expected under the circumstances, were quite steady and apparently did their best. The inspection was an improvement over last year, especially so far as concerns the condition of the muskets. The drill which followed showed defects in various respects, also gave proof of the fact that something had been learned during the performance of the forenoon, and certainly fell not below the expectations of the Inspector General and the spectators. Of the latter

there was a large number on hand, which shows that the regiment, as of old, has still many friends. Brigadier Gen. W. H. Brownell, of the 4th Brigade, was amongst the most attentive and interested ones, and when Colonel Scott, during the afternoon published to the regiment a telegram just received from ex-Captain McIntyre, in which he was informed that the appropriation for the new armory had been passed by the City authorities, the General became enthusiastic, and in a feeling speech he congratulated the regiment upon its present bright prospects and meritorious past. During his speech he paid a handsome tribute to the memory of the late Brigadier General Joshua M. Varian, one of the most successful and best remembered Colonels of the 8th Regiment. The little speech was the cause of quite a deal of sentiment amongst the older, and of a burst of enthusiasm among the younger members of the regiment, and formed the most pleasing episode of the day. The new armory promises to bring back to the colors of the 8th a large proportion of its old membership, as well as new elements, and those who have remained true to the colors have become quite enthusiastic over the bright prospect. We hope the new armory will have the desired effect, and especially congratulate Colonel Scott on the attainment of so favorable a result of his faithful and untiring efforts.

The regiment inspected as follows:

	Present.		Absent.		Agg.
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	
Field and Staff	8	10	2	1	10
N. C. S.	10	10	1	1	11
Company A	2	32	1	4	39
Company B	3	32	1	13	48
Company C	3	39	1	10	51
Company D	1	14	1	33	48
Company E	1	23	1	44	68
Company F	2	17	1	15	34
Company G	1	36	1	22	59
Company H	2	14	1	31	47
Company I	2	14	1	31	47
	21	216	5	173	415

THIRTEENTH NEW YORK.—Col. A. C. Barnes.—The Thirteenth was inspected at the Marine Barracks, Brooklyn Navy-yard, on Monday, Oct. 13. As we had received no information as to the place where the inspection was to take place, we found ourselves in the same boat with several others and looked for them at the Prospect Park Parade Ground. Consequently we did not see the exhibition, and are unable to give any data beyond the official figures, which are as follows:

	Present.		Absent.		Agg.
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	
Field and Staff	10	10	2	1	10
N. C. S.	7	10	2	1	10
Company A	3	33	1	10	51
Company B	3	39	1	14	56
Company C	3	47	1	11	61
Company D	1	36	1	15	52
Company E	3	61	1	9	73
Company F	1	54	1	14	70
Company G	3	78	1	14	95
Company H	3	52	1	6	61
Company I	2	24	1	7	33
Company K	2	47	1	12	62
	38	439	8	114	633

NEW YORK ITEMS.

After drill on Monday, October 13, 1884, the 4th Company, 7th Regiment, held an election for 1st Lieutenant, vice Kopper, resigned. Colonel Clark declared the polls open at 9 P. M. The canvassing was exceedingly lively, the candidates being 2d Lieut. Dillingham and 1st Sergeant Harry D. Cooper. At the closing of the polls, at 10 P. M., Colonel Clark declared Harry D. Cooper the choice of the company, amid great applause. Colonel Clark expressed his congratulations to Lieutenant Cooper, elect, and the members of the 4th Company felt very enthusiastic, knowing Lieutenant Cooper's qualifications as a sterling young officer. The company enjoyed a collation served at the Annex, and many toasts were ably responded to by Colonel Clark, Captain Kipp, 1st Lieut. Cooper, 2d Lieutenant Dillingham, Hon. Fredk. Kopper and many others.

The following statement has been sent us in the case of one Morris Frey, who tried to escape doing military duty on the plea of having enlisted under age: "Frey enlisted when he was 20 years of age, and rendered service in the 11th Regiment after he was 21. This would be sufficient to hold him to the performance of his duty, having reaffirmed the contract, after arriving at the legal age, which he made during his minority. But the principal question before the court is, whether the affidavits of Morris Frey and Samuel Frey, his father, are worthy of belief. Judge Lawrence had both the parties before him, and he declared his utter disbelief in every statement, and so refused the application. The National Guard is indispensable to the preservation of good order in the State. It is no longer a mere pastime and exhibition. While the connection with the National Guard is purely voluntary, it is of the highest importance that courts should not encourage the violation of a contract which an enlisted man makes with the State. *Point*—The decision of the court below should be sustained, and the appeal dismissed, with costs.—HARRIS O. KINO, Judge Advocate General and Attorney for Respondents."

The 7th Regiment have under consideration a trip to Washington to attend the Presidential inauguration on the 4th of March next, or the inauguration of the Washington Monument, on the 22d of February, provided the project meets the approval of the several companies. A bronze decoration, to be called "The Seventh Regiment Cross of Honor" is to be presented to the active and exempt members of the regiment who have served 10 years or more, or who served in the late war. The regiment will parade in February, when the decoration will be presented. Capt. James S. Price and Lieut. Frederick Kopper have been honorably discharged.

The 1st and 2d Divisions of the National Guard have been ordered out for review by the Governor at New York City on Tuesday, October 28th.

The 8th Regt., under command of Capt. A. G. Barker, will go to Creedmoor for target practice on Monday, Oct. 28th. The opportunity is offered to give those of its members who have failed to qualify an opportunity to do so. Colonel George D. Scott is at St. Louis on private business. We are glad that the regiment, with its prospects for a new armory, shows signs of renewed interest and life. A committee to make arrangements for a series of lectures to be delivered at the armory has been organized.

The following are the official figures of the 11th Regiment at its recent inspection at Van Cortlandt Park.

	Present.		Absent.		Agg.
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	
Field and Staff	6	11	1	1	7
N. C. S.	11	11	1	1	11
Company A	2	28	1	20	43
Company B	3	37	1	19	59
Company C	1	47	1	19	62
Company D	1	29	1	30	53
Company E	1	39	1	18	59
Company F	1	30	1	23	54
Company G	2	34	1	14	50
Company H	2	30	1	16	49
Company I	2	30	1	16	49
	18	300	6	182	506

Aprones of the 22d Regiment inspection, Colonel Thomas H. McGrath, of the Inspector General's Department, says that it was

the best inspection all through of any he has ever witnessed. He never saw a steadier, better set up lot of men, better fitting uniforms and equipments, so well and uniformly adjusted. The 22d may be proud of such a verdict.

MASSACHUSETTS.

The question of abolishing the military drill in the public schools in Boston is again agitated. The School Committee calls for \$10,000 for the purchase of breechloading muskets, and some of the higher military authorities oppose granting the appropriation. They argue that the school will accomplish nothing except to sicken the boys of soldiering, so that they do not go into the militia at an age when they could render the State some service. There is, however, a larger and more popular interest in favor of retaining the military drill in the schools.

CONNECTICUT.

The work of building an armory for the 4th Regiment, C. N. G., to cost \$32,000 was begun in Bridgeport, Oct. 13.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. F. asks: A soldier tried for repeated absence without leave and sentenced to dishonorable discharge and confinement for one year, does he forfeit all pay and allowances, such forfeiture not having been mentioned in the sentence? Ans.—He is entitled in such a case to his pay from the date he rejoined from absence without leave until the date of dishonorable discharge. "Retained pay" is forfeited under the Act of May 15, 1872, by men "when discharged by way of punishment for an offence before expiration of term of service, by sentence of Court-martial" and for "repeated trials by Court-martial and punishments for misconduct."

Law says: "It has been stated several times by two or three officers of our command that there is a law of Congress that prohibits any commander's moving his troops in any State or Territory within fifteen days before or after a general election. 2d. That Congress in 1877 passed a Joint Resolution to that effect. I hold that neither is the case, and that either would not only paralyze the General Government at the most critical time, but would likewise be in conflict with existing laws." Ans.—You are right. Congress passed no such joint resolution in 1877, nor is there any law forbidding a military commander's moving his troops from one part of a State to another, or from one State to another, within fifteen days before or after a general election. All the laws affecting the officer of the Army in his relations to the elective franchise will be found in G. O. No. 71, dated Headquarters of the Army, A. G. O., Washington, October 1, 1878, and in the Revised Regulations.

W. K. asks: How does a discharged soldier apply for a situation under the Government, and is there not some Government employment to which good soldiers discharged for disability are entitled? Ans.—If you desire employment in a particular department of the Government, you should apply to the head of that department for the position you desire, sending your discharge, testimonials of character, etc. For certain positions honorably discharged soldiers are given the preference when appointments are to be made.

Cavalry.—You are No. 109 on the Ordnance Sergeant list.

Artillery.—You are No. 92 on the Ordnance Sergeant list.

A correspondent asks: After the "Officer of the day" has been challenged by the sentry on No. 1 Post does the Corporal of the Guard when he comes out to receive him, challenge him, and if so, is it correct to challenge: "Who stands there," or does the Corporal of the Guard simply advance him to be recognized before the Guard is turned out? Ans.—The following decision made in letter A. G. O., of April 10, 1884, and published in Lieut. Brown's compilation seems to cover your question: "The sentry on No. 1 post having challenged . . . should command 'halt, Corporal of the Guard, friend, or friend with the countersign' . . . The Corporal of the Guard should then order the person to advance, receiving the countersign if the person has it. If the person be . . . any person entitled to inspect the Guard the corporal after receiving the countersign should say, 'et cetera.' This does not say anything of a phrase like: Who stands there."

A correspondent asks: Sec. 94, page 31, revised military code. Does the marshal of a court receive his allowance of 25 per cent. in the same manner as his pay per day while serving on the court. Ans.—The marshal is entitled to \$2.00 per day for each day's service not exceeding 10 days, and to 25 per cent. of the collections made by him—and mileage or necessary travelling expenses. If the court by authority of the Adj. Gen. sits more than ten days, the marshal is entitled to \$2.00 for each additional day.

(From the Army and Navy Gazette.)

THE RUSSIAN NAVY.

We hear that the "Old Russian" movement is spreading to the Russian Navy. It is only a short time ago that the uniform of the Army was changed to the old Russian style, and rendered totally distinct from the types of Western Europe. It is now proposed to effect a similar alteration in the fleet, the men being provided with a short *kaftan*, fastened with hooks instead of buttons. The Russian press warmly approves of the proposed reform. In its opinion the present dress of Russian seamen is too similar to that of Western Europe. "It is the first essential," says one Moscow paper, "that our seamen should look like Russians; it is a secondary consideration that they should look like seamen. There is no reason to believe that the present dress worn by European seamen is the best that could be devised, and we are persuaded that an alteration could be effected assimilating it with the Russian national costume, without interfering with the comfort and efficiency of the wearers." With regard to the four ironclads of the heaviest type that have been ordered for the Russian Black Sea fleet, we learn from Sebastopol that the *Tchesma*, which is being constructed there, is a quarter finished, and the *Catharine the Second*, at Nicholasief, one third. The latter will be half finished by January next. As regards the third, the *Sinope*, commenced a short time ago at Sebastopol, about 400 tons of steel have, to use the Russian expression, "been put into position." The fourth ironclad is only now being taken in hand. At the present moment, no fewer than twelve large powerful battleships are constructing, of which seven are on the stocks at St. Petersburg, and five in Nicholasief and Sebastopol, and this month (August) the keels of two other huge vessels, the *Alexander the Third* and the *Catharine the Second*, which will have a burthen of 10,000 tons each, have been laid down in the Baltic wharf. Improvements in torpedo vessels are also on the point of being introduced. Russia has nominally 100 torpedo boats, but most of them are entirely useless, which is especially true of the 50 submarine boats (*Chetvetvski's* system) which have cost together 900,000 roubles. These vessels cause such a noise that they betray their presence at long distances. As they are moved by hand power, their speed is so little that they have been declared utterly useless. Besides these boats, there are several other systems of torpedo vessels in the Russian Navy. Several boats have been constructed on Alexandrovski's system in which the motive power is compressed air. It may be finally mentioned

that the Russian Government has ordered a large floating dock in England, which is intended for the central station of the Russian Pacific Squadron at Vladivostok.

THE LANGSON "MASSACRE."

L'Avenir Militaire reports that the recall of Gen. Millot is in part due to an unguarded opinion expressed before he went to Tonquin, that the occupation was both useless and absurd. This did not prevent him from applying for the post of Commander-in-Chief of the expedition. We also learn that Colonel Dugenne, who commanded the unfortunate column, has been ordered home for having rashly attacked an overwhelming force without asking for orders. A letter, written by a soldier who was engaged in this affair, is published by a French provincial journal. It runs thus: "We had left Hanoi about a week, and were boldly marching along the banks of the Red River, when we saw a flag of truce on the opposite side. We immediately showed another, and two old Chinamen arrived, and entered into discussion with the Colonel. One of them said, 'You can return to Hanoi; but if you wish to enter Langson you must kill 20 companies of 400 men—choose.' The Colonel replied that in half an hour he would resume his march. Then the Chinaman broke a branch of bamboo and said, 'If you overstep that branch we shall open fire. Half an hour afterwards we passed the limit, and after a siege of a day and a half we were obliged to fly—it was high time, a little later and we should all have been captured. Out of 400 men (Frenchmen) we had 275 killed or wounded. Shortly before the struggle began, a Commandant said to the Colonel: 'If we do not fall back at once I shall blow my brains out.' Suddenly there was a cry of *sauve qui peut!* Everyone fled, but we had destroyed our convoy of provisions, throwing the tea and coffee into the river. The rest of our effects, however, remained on the field of battle. Two days later, when the battery arrived to save us, we were like so many bandits, filthy and disgusting. On the day of battle the Chinese were 8,000 against 400 Frenchmen." This description, if not entirely due to the imagination, differs materially from the official reports published in Paris, and proves, as General Millot's report and as Colonel Dugenne's report proved, that there was no surprise, and that the Chinese were attacked with a full knowledge of the difficulties of the undertaking. However, as a French writer remarks, every time a disaster occurs in Algeria it is always set down to treachery on the part of the enemy, and to overwhelming numbers.

NEW MACHINE GUNS.

A new rival to the Nordenfeli, Garduer, and Gatling guns has appeared on the scene, in the shape of an invention by Mr. Hiram Maxim, the well-known electrician. The chief features of the Maxim machine gun are as follows:—Its action is partially automatic. The gun, which has only a single barrel, is so arranged that the recoil on firing each round is utilized to load and fire the next round; in fact, the recoil brings into position the next cartridge, introduces it into the barrel, cocks the hammer, pulls the trigger, and ejects the empty cartridge case. The gun can be fired at any rate of quickness, according to the distance to which a lever is pulled over, and when the gun is adjusted to a certain speed, it goes on at that speed till all the cartridges have been exhausted, whether the man in charge be killed or not. The maximum rate of firing is 600 rounds per minute. The calibre of the gun is .450 inches; it weighs, with its tripod, 126 lbs., stands about 3 feet high, and measures, from the muzzle to the rear of the firing mechanism, 4 feet 9 inches. The gun can be elevated, depressed, or trained to right or left by means of adjusting screws. The feeding arrangements may be thus briefly described: the cartridges are placed in a canvas belt; each belt holds 393 cartridges; any number of lengths can be connected. The first belt is placed in a box immediately below the gun, and the leading end is inserted in the gun itself. As the gun is fired the belt is drawn into it on one side, the cartridges are successively drawn out of the belt and fired, the empty belt and cartridge cases being ejected at the other side.—*United Service Gazette*.

FOREIGN NOTES.

A story told about General Skobelev and a Jew has become legendary in the Russian army. As Skobelev was working in his tent near the Danube, a Turkish bomb fell near by, was seized by a sentinel and thrown into the water "Do you know you have saved my life?" said the General. "I have done my best." Very well; which would you rather have, the St. George's cross or 100 roubles?" The sentinel hesitated. "What is the value of the St. George's cross, my General?" "What do you mean? The cross may be worth five roubles, but it is an honor to possess it." "Well, my General," calmly said the soldier, "if it is like that, give me 95 roubles and the cross of St. George."

The railway from Suakin had been completed at last accounts as far as the mainland (a distance of about a mile), but the gauge is very narrow and the carriages are, as a consequence, so small that a load of one ton each would be the utmost that they could carry. Upon this toy show a sum amounting to nearly £500 a week is being spent, but at the rate the works are at present proceeding, the railway will not be finished this winter if it is to be carried as far as Berber.

A METHOD of military nocturnal signalling has been devised by a Russian, Captain Kostovich. To a small captive balloon is suspended an Edison electric lamp, which, by means of connecting wires, can be kindled and extinguished at will by an operator stationed on board ship or in any other convenient position, a series of such extinctions and reignitions being employed according to a telegraphic code.

GENERAL Briere de l'Isle advised the French Government early in the week that any further advance in Tonquin will be imprudent until the French army there is heavily reinforced. The *Soleil* compares the present war in Tonquin to the French adventure in Mexico, with the difference that the French could withdraw from Mexico and Mexico was not annexed. France, the *Soleil* says, cannot retire from Tonquin, having official possession.

The preparations for the Zhoob Valley Expedition still continue in India. The reason given for General Kennedy's force being divided into two Brigades is that one is to move by the Zhoob Valley, the other by the Gomal Pass.

The royal palace of Christiansborg, in Copenhagen, was destroyed by fire on the night of October 3d. Ten soldiers were burned to death in the efforts to rescue some of the contents.

The steel guns manufactured at Spezia by the Italian Government have proved a great success, and according to the *Italia Militare*, they will, forthwith be issued to the ironclads *Vesuvius*, *Stromboli*, and *Doria*.

The *Army and Navy Gazette* is stirred up by some criticisms in the New York *Herald* to say: "We have, however,

PRINCE Albert Victor and Prince George of Wales are about to try their hands at authorship. From the first day (8 September 17, 1879) of their cadetship on board the *Bacchante* they started a journal and kept a daily note book, wherein were chronicled the sights and strange things that they encountered during their trip in 1879-80 in the Mediterranean, back to Madeira, and on to the West Indies.

THE *Army and Navy Gazette* thus considers the British cavalryman in prospect of his possible experiences in Egypt: No one who has not experienced it can know or form any idea of the bodily agony caused to a beginner by a long ride on a camel. Many people have experienced the misery and pain produced in unaccustomed muscles by a heavy day's work in the pigskin—the "loss of leather," the burning heat, the racking torture in back and legs, the parched mouth, sleepless hours, and feverish thirst:—but these are quite pleasurable sensations and results compared with the state of body and feeling superinduced by thirty miles:

The *Afonso d'Albuquerque*, the latest addition to the Portuguese Navy, recently completed in England, is intended to serve as an efficient and well-equipped cruiser on the West Coast of Africa; and as one of a number of like vessels designed, though not yet constructed, to effectively protect Portuguese interests in that part of the world. The

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ship is a full-rigged cruiser, is 250ft. long, and her breadth of beam is 33ft. Fitted with horizontal compound engines of 1,000 indicated horsepower the engineers have adapted the boilers to work under forced draught—an arrangement which is now becoming usual in the British Navy; and by this means the engines developed during a trial trip as much as 1,400 indicated horsepower, the ship attaining a speed of 13½ knots hourly—that is the Admiralty mean of six runs. The vessel carries two 6 in. 4½ ton Armstrong guns, on projecting spigons, and five 40 pounder Armstrong guns on Vavasseur hydraulic automatic carriages.

Referring to the bombardment and destruction of the Foochow Arsenal, and to the recent events that have attended the Franco-Chinese quarrel, a correspondent of the *Army and Navy Gazette* draws the lesson that arsenals should not be on the banks of rivers or on the sea-coast. "It is evident," continues the correspondent, "that if a fleet can creep up a river defended by torpedoes and batteries, there is no safety for shore arsenals. Torpedoes have been very much overrated. They are always fished up. And casemated batteries are useless against ironclads, the chief defence of which is to be sought in vertical fire."

A SPECIAL correspondent at Foochow thus described the effect produced on the natives by an electric search light from the French flagship: "I happened to be going down

to the anchorage last night in a steam launch and just as Pagoda anchorage hove in sight, the Volta, the French flagship, lit her electric search lamp and threw a blinding ray on each Chinese gunboat in turn to see if they were slyly slipping their anchors or rigging torpedoes. I steamed through the Chinese fleet while the search light was on them, and the effect was most ludicrous—the cries and antics of the men on board who seemed to think there was something very awful in a light so strong that their eyes could not bear to look at it. It was a curious sight seen from a little distance; the night was slightly hazy, and the ray from the lamp seemed like a gigantic wedge-shaped arm thrown out by the vessel. The Volta had two torpedo boats alongside, with steam up, and all on board were moving about in an excited, restless manner.

The tonnage of the effective armored fleets of the leading naval powers of Europe is stated to be: England, 329,520 tons; France, 201,789; Germany, 74,007; Austria, 69,110; Russia, 83,621, and Italy, 59,905.

A DESPATCH of October 5th from London says: Various financial scandals have recently cropped out in the English navy and are creating an unpleasant sensation at the Admiralty Office and elsewhere. A number of minor officers of the men-of-war Gauges have been arrested on charges of embezzling enormous quantities of ship stores. From the

immense amount and value of the stolen material it is difficult to imagine how petty officers could have obtained it without collusion on the part of their superiors, and some startling revelations are expected to be made on the court-martial.

A TURKISH correspondent writes: Some Turkish officers who recently made a trial of the Berdan fuses for sharpshooters at Tch-takdja have made a very favorable report to the Sultan. The peculiarity of the invention is that it utilizes the rotatory motion of the shell and causes an explosion at a given distance independently of the time which the shell takes to reach its destination. It is thus not affected by many causes of inaccuracy to which ordinary time fuses are subject.

A BRITISH Army officer has recently patented an ingenious application of the pocket-compass to the general purposes of military surveying. It consists of the usual magnetic needle in a compass-box, fitted with Colonel Richards's working meridian. The compass-box is fixed to a clamp, by means of which it can be attached to any note-book, sketch-block, plane table, map, &c. The instrument will form a most useful addition to an officer's field kit, for it is no larger than the pocket-compass, which all should carry, while, provided with it, an officer could do whatever might be required in the rough sketching line. The compass can, if de-

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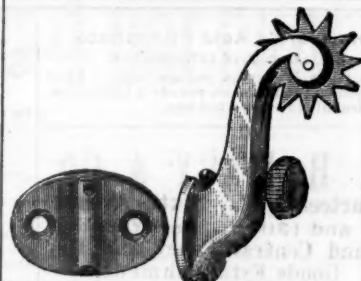
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sired, be carried attached by a strap to the inside of the lid of the field-glass case.

DEALING with Sir T. Brassey's recent speech at Portsmouth, England, on naval matters, *Broad Arrow* says: "We do not deny that much more has been done by the present Administration towards increasing our naval strength than was done year by year by their predecessors. But that fact does not give us a better Navy than France. It is no doubt true that, whereas the shipbuilding expenditure for the year 1879-80 was only £3,106,000, that for the current year is estimated at £3,891,000; but even that does not make the British Navy fit to cope with any combination of European Powers; nor does it make our Navy fit to watch and maintain our many and varied interests in all parts of the world. The question is, Are we expending as much upon the Navy as we should do? Nowhere in Sir Thomas Brassey's recent speech do we find a clear statement upon that point. The question is not between Lord Northbrook's Board and that of Mr. W. H. Smith; it is between the present Board of Admiralty and the country. We distinctly and emphatically assert that the safety of the three kingdoms is endangered by reason of our naval deficiencies. We want more ironclads, many more breech-loading guns, plenty of torpedo vessels; a coast defence squadron and a coast defence organization."

WHY AND WHERE.

THE man who insures his life discounts the risks and anxieties of years. He renders it certain that his family will always have a suitable support. He buys a fortune on installments—the fortune to be delivered to his family at the

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MARRIED.

CALLAHAN—MANN.—At the Rectory of Grace Church, New York, October 12, Captain C. M. CALLAHAN, 4th U. S. Cavalry, to Mrs. SUSAN H. MANN.

HOYLE—BLAKE.—Oct. 1, 1884, at St. Seiriel's Church, Pennsylvania, North Wales, EDWARD LASCERES, eldest son of Isaac Hoyle, The Bow, Freetrich, and MARGARET KUTNER, second daughter of the late Charles F. Blake, of New York, and granddaughter of the late Gen. John A. Dix.

OSGOOD—REDWAY.—At Hion, N. Y., October 2, Lieutenant CHAS. H. OSGOOD, 12th U. S. Infantry, to Miss BELLA F. REDWAY.

STYMONS—ROBINSON.—At Philadelphia, Pa., October 8, Captain THOS. W. STYMONS, Corps of Engineers, U. S. A., to LETITIA, daughter of Mrs. C. E. and the late Alexander Parker Robinson, of Pittsburgh, Pa.

WARREN—GOODIN.—At Louis, Mo., October 9, Captain CHAS. H. WARREN, 14th U. S. Infantry, to Miss MAGGIE E. GOODIN.

DIED.

BEAUMONT.—At Lebanon, Pa., Sept. 30, ELEANOR B. BEAUMONT, sister of the late Rear Admiral John C. Beaumont, U. S. Navy.

CHURCH.—At Hartford, Conn., October 13, Mrs. M. Z. CHURCH, widow of the late Professor Albert E. Church, U. S. Army, of West Point, N. Y.

HARMON.—At Lebanon, O., Mrs. MARY HARMON, wife of Lieut. W. R. Harmon, 10th U. S. Cavalry.

LYNCH.—At Brooklyn, N. Y., October 10, Captain DOMINICK LYNCH, U. S. Navy, retired.

MAGRUDER.—At Groton, Mass., October 9, WILLIAM RICHARDSON MAGRUDER, eldest son of Surgeon A. F. Magruder, U. S. N., and Isabel R. Magruder, aged 5 years, 9 months and 19 days.

PICKETT.—At 553 East 140th Street, New York City, October 10, EUGENE PICKETT, formerly 2d Lieutenant 23d U. S. Infantry.

RHOADES.—MARY E. VAN ARNHAM, wife of Medical Inspector A. C. Rhoades, U. S. Navy.

SHARP.—At Mackinac Island, Mich., ELIZABETH, infant daughter of 1st Lieutenant Thomas Sharp, 17th U. S. Infantry.

WAYNE.—October 12, CONSTANCE C. WAYNE, eldest daughter of the late Henry C. and Mary L. Wayne, of Savannah, Georgia, and sister-in-law of Lieutenant B. H. Patterson, 1st Artillery, U. S. A.

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VALUABLE IN INDIGESTION.
Dr. DANIEL T. NELSON, Chicago, says: "I find it a pleasant and valuable remedy in indigestion, particularly in overworked men."

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This gun has just been brought out. Every effort has been made to make it the best gun possible. New devices have been introduced in perfecting this arm, to wit—the force expended in working it is divided between the opening and closing motion—rendering the manipulating easier and pleasanter. The safety device is positive, and the indicator that the arm can or cannot be fired, is outside and distinct. The parts are simple, strong, and few in number. It is powerful, close, and even shooting. The barrels, like all the guns of the Colt Arms Co., are, by a system known only to the Company, soldered together with hard solder. They never can jar apart, thus overcoming a defect to which the guns of the best English makers are liable. They are more accurately made than the much more costly English guns.

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Years ago these took a good start, based on the reputation of the makers. With large numbers of Frontiersmen they now have a good name which this arm has earned for itself. We have in stock all the lengths, weights, and styles of finish. The .44 cal. more recently

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Police .38 and .41 calibre Self and Thumb Cocking. The police force of nearly all the cities of this country are armed with this efficient weapon. Long stroke, and sure fire, with light trigger pull, great penetration and accuracy.

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.22, .30, .32, .38 and .41 calibre—compact and strong shooting. All adapted for long cartridges. The .30 calibre pistol weighs only 6 ounces. Keep in mind that this is much the most lead and force for the weight of any pistol made.

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.44 calibre Thumb Cocking—uses the same cartridge as Colt's Repeating Rifle.

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Excellent and beautifully made Hammerless Double Guns.

All the above Breech Loading Guns are much superior, for the cost, to imported Guns, whether English or Belgian.

SMITH & WESSON Self Cocking and Thumb Cocking Pistols, .22, .32, .38 and .41 calibre. These pistols are the very best material and workmanship wrought iron and steel throughout.

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Visitors to the Dore Gallery, London, will remember the great painting, covering nearly
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pay for space in proportion to circulation. With but 25,000 circulation the profits would be but
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And subscription begins. Your individual note is all the security asked: provided you will
send the names of several of your neighbors to whom we can refer, not as to the amount of
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need be signed until the money is paid over. Send the
names of several of your neighbors to whom we can refer, not
as to the amount of property you are worth, but as to good
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The Premium will be sent at once. Address,
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Equal in Capacity to 4 Double Barreled Shot Guns. Shoots
8 Rounds with one Loading. 3 Patents.

The question has long been asked, Why cannot Repeating Shot Guns be made on a similar
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have solved this difficult problem, and we now offer, as a result of the great success we
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Description: The Magazine holds 8 Rounds; can be loaded
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can be instantly converted into a Single loader if desired. The Lock, Magazine, and
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perfect safety. We caution gun buyers against irresponsible firms who deceptively
advertise and offer bogus, altered, and toy guns, dear at any price, and unsafe to shoot.
We send with each gun our warrent, as follows:

Head Gun Warrant: The Parker Magazine Repeating Shot Gun, made on a similar
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and also to be made of the finest materials, and hand made. If found otherwise, we
will refund money or satisfactorily exchange for other guns. Signed, Parker & Co.

We will offer a limited number of these excellent guns at \$13.00 each (the first
cost), as offered by us, we warrant to be so represented in our and loading,
and also to be made of the finest materials, and hand made. If found otherwise, we
will refund money or satisfactorily exchange for other guns. Signed, Parker & Co.

WEIGHT 7½ to 9 LBS.
BORES 12 & 16

WE CHALLENGE
THE ARMOURERS OF THE WORLD
FOR ITS EQUAL IN RAPIDITY OF ACTION, BRILLIANT EXECUTION,
ACCURACY, BALANCE,
& COMPACTNESS.

Our Special and Limited Offer. Upon receipt of
\$13.00 before Nov. 25, 1884, we agree to securely pack
and box free of all charges and ship to any one ad-
dressed in the United States One Parker Magazine Re-
peating Shot Breechloading Shot Gun, with one
dozen Loaded Shells free. But after Nov. 25, 1884,
and up to Jan. 1, 1885, the price will be \$18.50. After
Jan. 1, 1885, the standard price will be \$23.00.
Only one gun will be sent to any one person at \$13.00.
Our object is distribution, and to get the gun at this
price you must cut out this coupon and return it to
us with your order.

So as to give our entire attention to the sale of this Repeating Shot Gun, we will close out our stock
of Fine Double Barreled Breechloading Shot Guns at prices from \$12.50 upward, worth double.



